# QUARTER ACRE POSSIBILITIES.

.....BY.....

FRANK H. NUTTER,
Landscape Architect.

WALTER J. KEITH,
Consulting Architect.

PRICE $1.00

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1890

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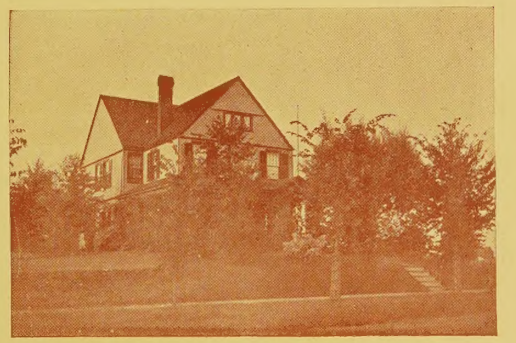

1896

# KEITH'S ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES.

IN the Fall of 1896 I received a request from the art editor of "The Ladies' Home Journal" asking me to prepare some designs for illustrations in that publication with descriptive articles to accompany them. The first of these articles appeared in the March number of 1897. The tremendous interest which was awakened throughout the country (bringing me a congratulatory letter from the editor of "The Ladies' Home Journal"), opened my eyes as to the want that existed of practical, artistic and well arranged moderate cost homes, incorporating in them not only the many modern conveniences in which rapid progress has been made of late years, but attractive little features such as ingle-nooks, oriel windows, cozy corners, prettily arranged stairways and many other matters that are not necessarily expensive if properly thought out in detail as a part of the design. Having discovered the demand in this direction, I proceeded to incorporate in a series of designs not only my own ideas regarding homes, but various valuable suggestions which had come to me from my clients from time to time. This collection of studies of moderate cost homes I have gathered together, published and now offer in book form. The design illustrated at the top of this page is simply an example of these studies. My books contain Colonial houses, both elaborate and simple in their treatment, that can be built from $1500 upward, simple little cottages suitable for summer occupancy, bungalows, etc., also city homes and small brick houses as narrow as sixteen feet in width. They are as follows:

Plans, sizes, views, etc., in all books.

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| 50 Ideal Summer Cottages, Bungalows, etc | $ .50 |
| 25 Studies of Brick and Combination Houses | .50 |
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**W. J. KEITH—Architect—104 Lumber Exchange, Minneapolis, Minn.**
Long Distance Phone—Office, 1895; Residence, South 429-J.

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# INTRODUCTION

THE art of home-making is a complex one in these latter days, and we call for the assistance of the architect, the sanitary engineer and the professional decorator to aid us in making the interior of our house all that we can desire, but too often the fact is overlooked, that a proper setting for our home is of the highest importance if we would crown our efforts with fullest success. The arrangement and finishing of the site on which the house is built is left to the haphazard endeavors of the excavator, or at best is taken up as an afterthought, and too late it is discovered that the grade and location of the building, or the arrangement of the various entrances have involved the owner in problems difficult to solve.

The fact is that the designing of the grounds and the designing of the house while rarely undertaken by the same person, should be executed simultaneously, and with the heartiest co-operation and harmony between the designers. And in the construction of the simplest home, the arrangement, location and grade of the house should not be definitely fixed, until their relation to the treatment and ornamentation of the grounds has received full consideration.

In such a comprehensive study of the question a plan of some kind is quite essential, even though it be nothing but a rough pencil sketch; and the design as a whole, if not in full detail, should be well worked out before construction is begun, otherwise there will probably be confusion and unnecessary expense.

There are doubtless many to whom such a preliminary study of their home grounds will give great pleasure, even though they may intend to entrust to a professional adviser the elaboration of their ideas into a final design.

To such and to all lovers of outdoor art this little book. with its brief suggestions as to the arrangement and adornment of home grounds, mostly of moderate size, is respectfully dedicated. It is not intended to set forth any new and startling theories or effects, or to exhibit delicate workmanship of the draughtsman; but it is hoped to make plain some of the first principles of landscape art, and show their application even to the most humble homesteads. It has ever been the fashion of many who would guide mankind aright, to put their admonitions in a negative form; let us follow the vogue and begin by saying, "Don't attempt too much!" In the first enthusiasm of home-building, the owner finds it easy to plan extensive improvements, and dazzled by the glittering novelties of the nursery and seedman's catalogues, to invest in many things which, unless he be unusually fortunate, will lead to disappointment and disgust. Simplicity then should be the rule, at least for the beginner.

The first point to be decided, after having determined the general plan of house, is its location upon the lot, and height of first floor above the adjacent street. We are all familiar with the ordinary village home,—the building set fifteen or twenty feet from the street line, to conform to its neighbors and add to the monotony of the view, and its lawn brought to an equally uniform grade with its surroundings; to be sure this often seems about the only thing to be done, and we must depend mostly on the planter's art to give individuality to the scene. It may prove to be the case, however, especially if our lot be of good size, that it will present some topographical feature, suggesting a departure from ordinary rules in the planning and location of house, and treatment of grounds. Several of our plates will show how some such problems have been met, it is thought, successfully. It not infrequently happens that the owner under such circumstances spends much money to attain very commonplace results, when with due consideration of the natural conditions of the site, a much smaller expenditure would have produced something both unique and artistic.

The location of the principal living rooms and the arrangement of the grounds are mutual factors, for the outlook from our home should be made as bright and pleasant as possible. This can be easily done, for in our temperate climate these living rooms will usually be found on the southerly or easterly sides of the building, unless the owner be like a certain ingenious client, who in the breezy northwest reversed the architect's plans, and put the principal rooms on the north side of the house, "because the sun would fade the carpets."

In grounds of some extent, the location of paths and drives follows close upon location of buildings; the householder of moderate circumstances in these days of the bicycle is not apt to maintain a stable, and with the conveniences of gas, sewer and electric connections, a carriage driveway upon a small lot is rarely needed, even if sometimes necessary to bring fuel, etc., to the house. An approach, properly graded, but kept in sod as a part of the lawn, will serve every purpose, if due care is exercised as to venturing upon it when too soft. Both from a financial and artistic standpoint, paths and drives should be restricted as far as possible, and constructed to meet only the necessities of the location. Even on a large lawn, footpaths are not so essential as many think, and rarely do the requirements demand that one should cross the lawn and divide it into separate areas. At most the walk should only encircle the lawn, winding among the trees and shrubs that form its boundaries. The elastic turf beneath one's feet, is more agreeable walking

than gravel or cement, and except on much frequented grounds, no damage will ensue to the sod if used for a promenade, and proper footwear will allow its use in moist weather or when dew falls.

Drives and paths should be so located as to accommodate the general trend of travel, and be no wider than such travel demands; their course though perhaps curving to meet the demands of beauty, should be reasonably direct to the entrance to be reached, and the grade such as to afford proper drainage away from buildings, and with no abrupt and awkward changes.

The paths and drives having been constructed, the lawn next receives our attention.

As for its grade, a true plane such as is often striven for will rarely be the most beautiful, except when some strictly formal and architectural scheme is being worked out; but it should present to the eye a gently curving surface, arranged with due regard to the demands of drainage, and the general topography of the surroundings. As the lawn is to be the canvas, on which we hope to work out our picture with nature's pigments of plant, flower and shrub, the providing of a vigorous and healthy turf is a matter of prime importance, and it must be admitted, of considerable cost.

It is right here that most improvers fail; they have very likely expended more in other ways than they intended and the construction of the lawn affords a welcome opportunity to economize; so they scorn all suggestions as to deep plowing, thorough cultivation, heavy seeding, careful rolling, etc., and for years to come either regret their blunder, or condemn the unfortunate contractor who was hampered by their false economy.

A good lawn, that is one built for years and not for weeks, should have a deep, rich soil, the more liable to drought, the deeper the soil. It should be kept well mown, and carefully rolled when heaved by frost or wet weather, freed from weeds and coarser grasses, and frequently and freely fertilized. The stable and barnyard generally furnish a winter dressing of great value, though at times strange weeds and plants may annoy the owner. Artificial fertilizers avoid this danger but should be used with discretion and selected according to climate and nature of soil; some of them, as nitrate of soda, are stimulants rather than plant food, and to try to build up a lawn upon them alone, would be like nourishing a working man on whiskey, rather than beefsteak or whole wheat bread.

Our lawn completed, one thing more remains to be done ere our task is finished; we must call upon the botanical world to aid us in decorating our handiwork, and in blending buildings, structures and lawns into harmonious unity. These plantings will serve various purposes besides mere ornamentation. Our house or stable rises abruptly from the ground with an alien air, but a few groups of the smaller shrubs, and some vines clambering over walls and verandas, will soon remedy this. A necessary retaining wall looks bare and repelling till draped with graceful foliage; a careless neighbor maintains a nuisance before our eyes, till a screen of green shuts it out forever; winter winds blow keenly, but behind our protecting plantations we smile at them, and amid snowy desolation our favorite evergreens tell the story of immortal life, our red-barked cornels and golden willows add the charm of color, while our berry-bearing shrubs and vines furnish welcome food to the winter birds. Unless indeed the miserable English sparrows have eaten them all, and are now impudently clamoring for more upon our very doorstep. Or perchance some distant and attractive scene is overlooked, as the vision sweeps the circle of the horizon, but carefully arranged groups of trees and shrubs, enclosing the vista, form "an aisle for the eye," till beneath the boughs of some drooping elm, the picture stands forth as though framed upon our parlor walls.

In proceeding to the consideration of the following plates, it is well to bear in mind that it is useless for the reader to expect because he finds illustrated a lot of the size of his own that it will be just what he needs. This book can only present ideas, which must be carefully weighed as to their adaptability to any specific case.

In mentioning varieties of trees and shrubs for the different designs, the thought has been to suggest characteristics of size and growth, rather than specific lists, as the best selection might change much with varying soils and climates.

As a large proportion of our readers will probably live in the northern states but few species will be mentioned which will not prove hardy to the Canadian line, thus leading perhaps to a monotonous repetition of names. Those who live in more tropical sections may congratulate themselves upon the freedom with which they can vary from the text before them.

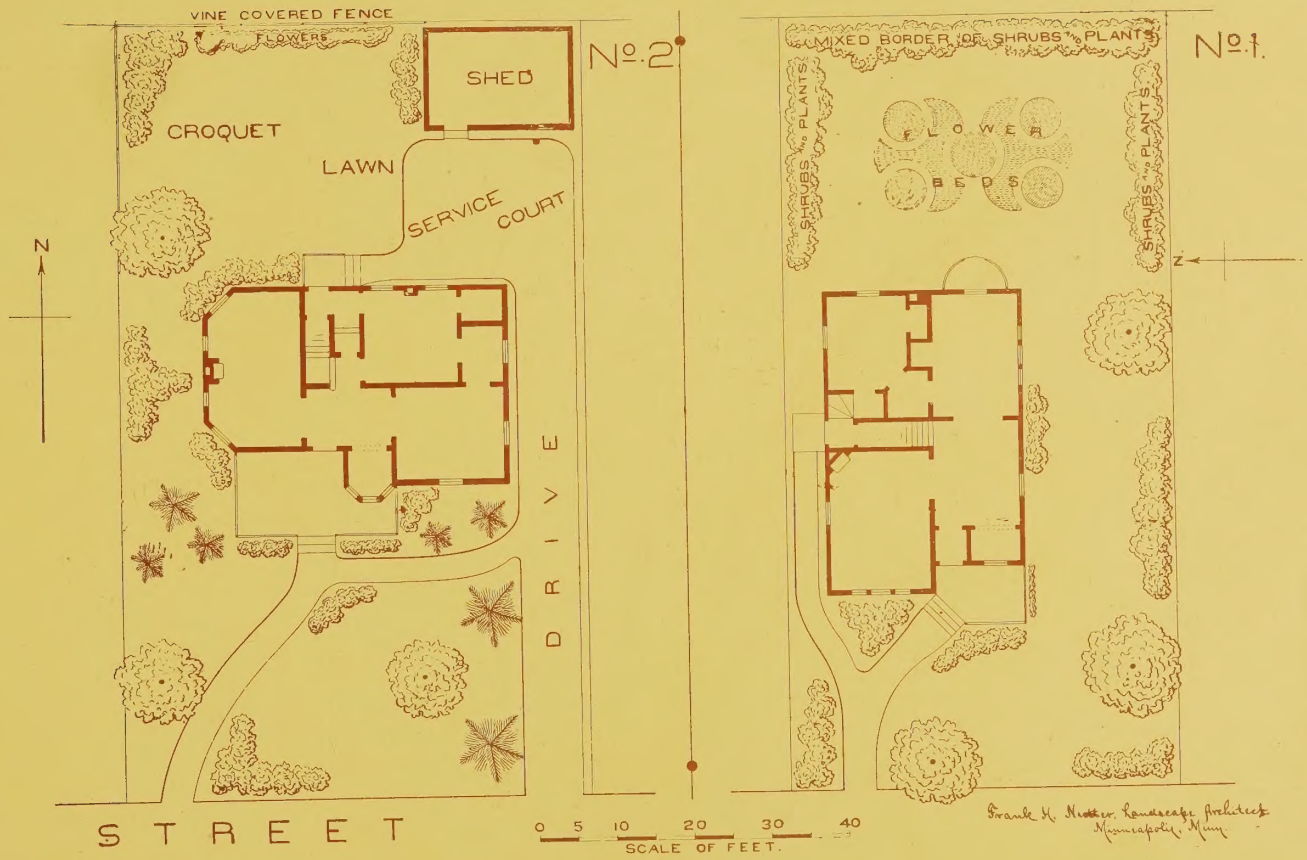
In conclusion, do not scorn old and tried friends, nor desert them for new and perhaps over-lauded novelties. Make your principal plantations of perfectly reliable varieties, before experimenting with others.

Don't spot the grounds with shrubs and plants, but mass them in groups around a sun-lit lawn, for broad areas of light and shade are as necessary in a picture out of doors as in.

Finally, don't be discouraged although drought blights, worms devour, and storms beat down; for "in due time ye shall reap, if ye faint not."

FRANK H. NUTTER.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.


VINE COVERED FENCE
FLOWERS
SHED
No. 2
CROQUET
LAWN
SERVICE COURT
N
DRIVE
STREET
MIXED BORDER OF SHRUBS & PLANTS
No. 1
SHRUBS & PLANTS
FLOWER BEDS
SHRUBS & PLANTS
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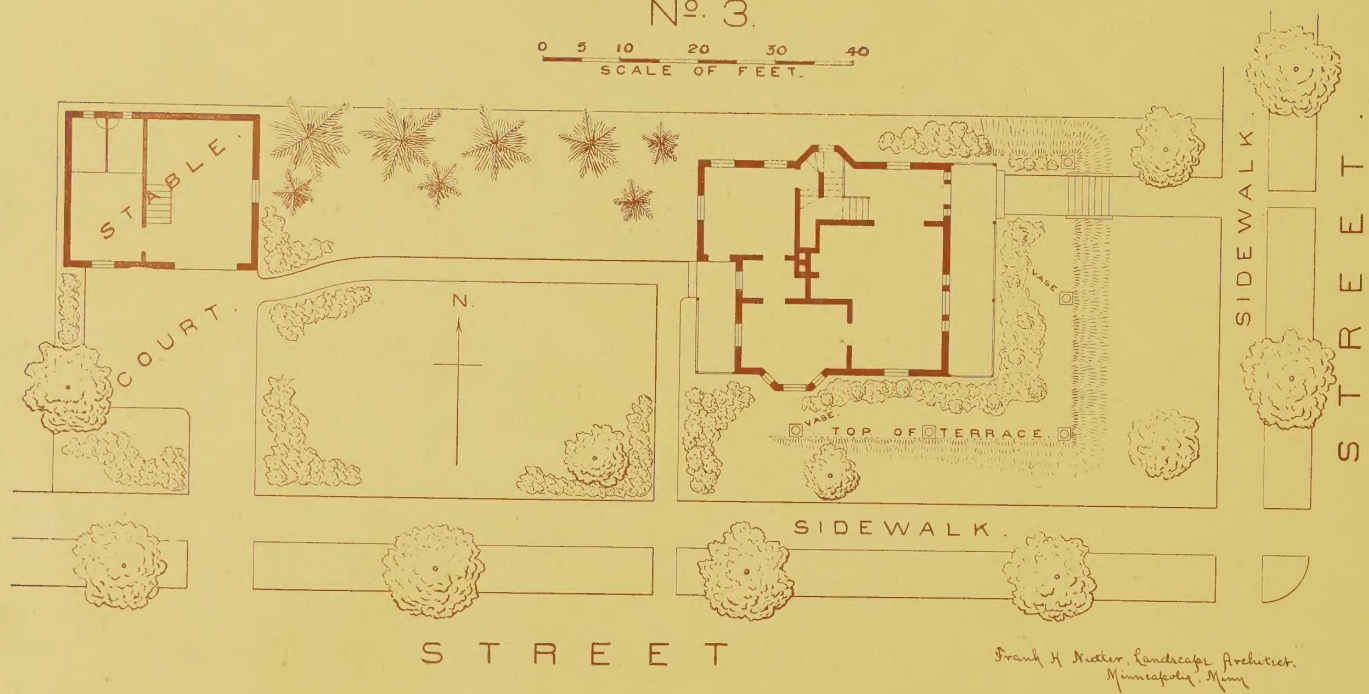
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect
Minneapolis, Minn.


No. 3.
0 5 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET.
STABLE.
COURT.
N.
VASE.
VASE.
TOP OF TERRACE.
SIDEWALK.
STREET.
SIDEWALK.
STREET
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect.
Minneapolis, Minn.

## PLATE I.

SPECIFICATIONS.—A village lot 50 feet frontage and 100 feet in depth, level and on grade with sidewalk. West front. House 26 feet by 39 feet, placed 25 feet from street line, and 5 feet from north line of lot; lawn grade at house being 15 inches above the sidewalk.

From motives of economy, and to gain lawn space, one path serves both front and side entrances.

As should be the case, if possible, large trees set along outer edge of sidewalk give welcome shade, adding dignity to the street and abutting property; so we will select varieties more in proportion to the size of lot, and place in the front lawn a couple of Wier's cut-leaf maple, and at side of house a European white birch, with upright form and chalky bark in pleasant contrast to the surrounding shrubs.

At the front corners of lot are groups of large shrubs, lilacs, mock orange or bush honeysuckles, while under the parlor windows a mass of shrub hydrangeas will make a brave show in August. Across the path in front of veranda a bed of peonies, iris and larkspurs, gives color to spring and early summer.

Along south end of veranda a growth of Virginia creepers and common clematis, will screen from the afternoon sun. At south side of house a group of dwarf spireas break up the long stretch of foundation.

To enable the ladies of the household to indulge in private, their love for floriculture, the rear of lot is enclosed with screens of hardy shrubs, the center of the little lawn devoted to formal flower beds, while a semi circular piazza reached by a casement window from the dining-room, will afford a pleasant outlook thereon, sheltered from the rays of the setting sun.

## PLATE II.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 60 feet front, 100 feet deep, facing south. House 40 feet by 26 feet, in center of lot, 40 feet from street line. Shed for fuel, 12 feet by 18 feet, in rear of lot.

As land on rear of lot is comparatively valueless in many cases, it is often well to disregard conventionalities, and place house well back from street. This has here been done, and an unusually liberal front lawn secured.

Evergreens are general favorites, and when trained as they should be with branches resting upon the lawn, are not only ornamental but valuable to conceal undesirable objects; so to screen driveway we find beside it as we enter a couple of Douglas spruce, and nearer the house a mugho pine, with a savin juniper between it and veranda, while west of veranda another mugho flanked by a savin on either side completes our group of evergreens. The two deciduous trees on front lawn are weeping cut-leaf birches, whose drooping growth contrasts pleasantly with the formal spruces. At the front gate a group of snowballs to blossom in May, intermingled with its more graceful relative, the bush cranberry, to bloom later and carry its coral fruitage into winter, guards the entrance.

The rear lawn is devoted to croquet, while the desired privacy is secured by a high vine-covered fence, in front of which at north end is a long border of hardy perennial plants, the old-time favorites. A large Norway maple shelters the players from the afternoon sun.

Briefly, the balance of planting is, in front of front veranda, spireas sorbifolia, Van Houtteii and Douglasi; across path, weigelias; at either end of veranda, hydrangeas; group west of house of cut-leaf, red-berried and common elders; shrubs on rear lawn, lilacs, Philadelphus, bush honeysuckles, etc.

## PLATE III.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 50 feet by 150 feet on corner, fronting east. House 32 feet by 28 feet, 35 feet from front and 16 feet from side street. Grade of side street rises 3 feet from street in front to rear of house, thence west on nearly level grade. Stable in rear.

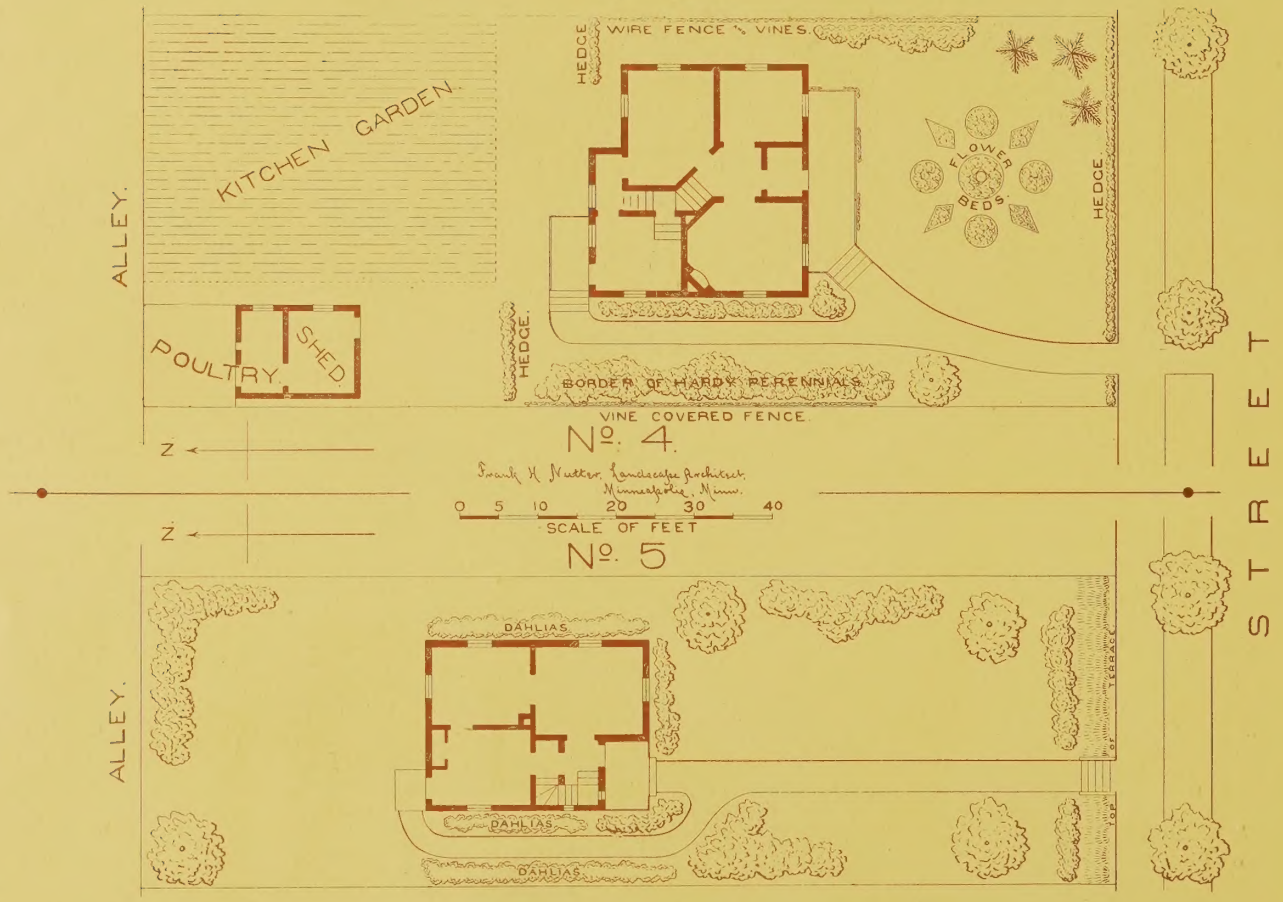
The location and character of improvements in this case warrant a somewhat formal design, so the ground around house is carried out practically level in front and at side to a sodded terrace, which brings it to the grade of the lower lawn. "Foliage plants," so often breaking up the repose of an otherwise attractive lawn, are here provided for along the front and side of building, and to add to the architectural effect vases of growing plants are placed at edge of terrace.

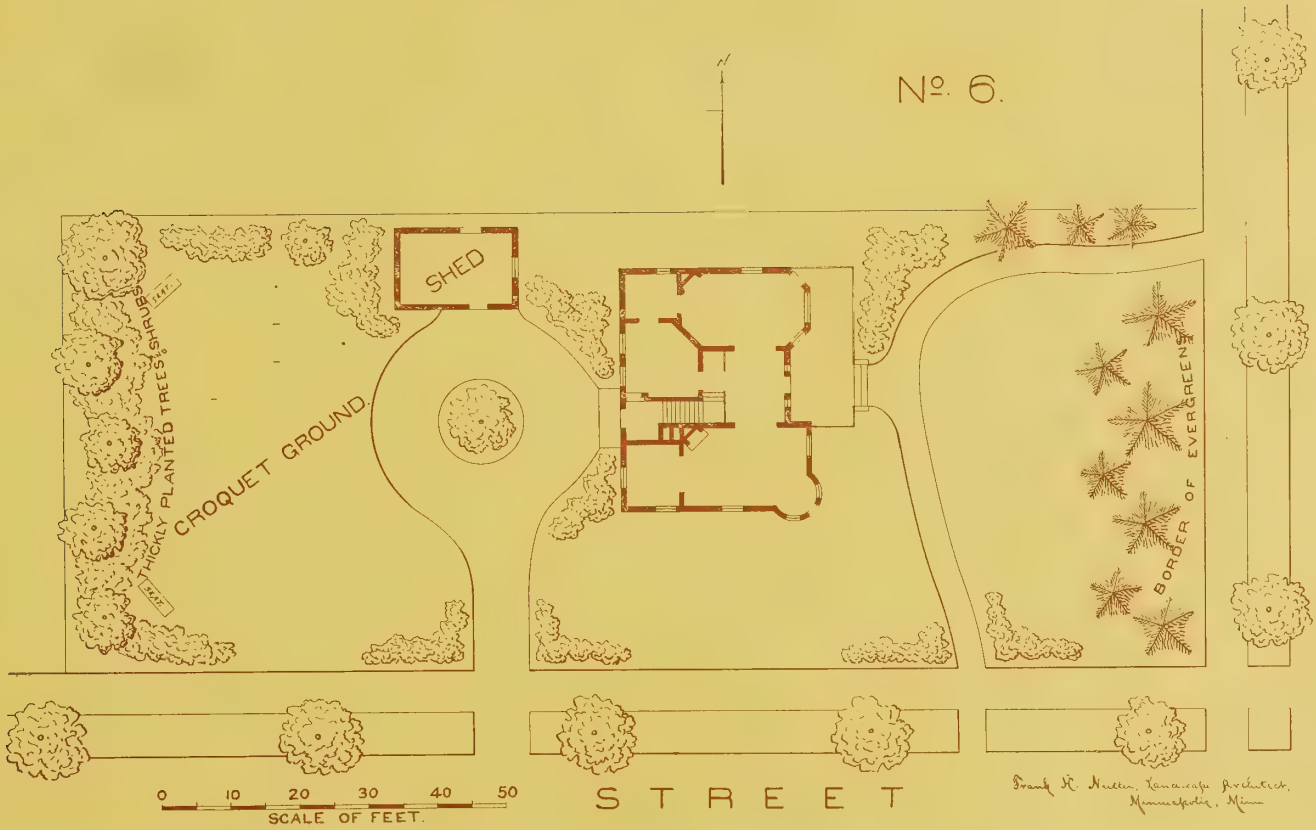
Elms are set for street trees, and in either front corner of lot a catalpa speciosa whose striking foliage and beautiful panicles of flowers always attract attention. In front of dining room bay window and near side street is placed an Ohio buckeye, introducing another form of foliage.

Between house and stable is a large lawn screened on the north by a group of hemlocks with a couple of mugho pines in front, and supported at either end by an arborvitæ pyramidalis.

At the side entrance, we find on our right a group of hydrangeas interspersed with tamarisk Amuriensis, and at our left a mass of caraganas and flowering currants, overtopped by a cockspur thorn.

The stable court is screened by large shrubs, and shaded by a Kentucky coffee tree with its remarkable leaves. Notwithstanding the rather overworked fad of removing all fences, we have ventured to surround this lot with an ornamental one, of iron, draped with vines, conspicuous among them several hardy kinds of clematis.


ALLEY.
KITCHEN GARDEN.
POULTRY SHED
HEDGE.
WIRE FENCE & VINES.
HEDGE.
FLOWER BEDS
HEDGE.
BORDER OF HARDY PERENNIALS.
VINE COVERED FENCE.
No. 4.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.
0 5 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET
No. 5
ALLEY.
DAHLIAS
DAHLIAS
DAHLIAS
STREET


№ 6.
SHED
CROQUET GROUND.
THICKLY PLANTED TREES & SHRUBS
BORDER OF EVERGREENS
STREET
STREET
0 10 20 30 40 50
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect.
Minneapolis, Minn.

The advocate of tree planting is often met by the argument that life is too short for the planter to reap sufficient reward for all his toil and trouble, but never was there a greater mistake. The writer recalls among other memories of his eastern home the pride with which a gray-haired neighbor would call attention to a graceful elm some eighteen inches in diameter and sixty feet in height, in his dooryard, and tell of planting it himself when a young man. But a lifetime is not required to see much accomplished in this direction. The pictures on front cover show the change brought about in a very few years; in 1890, we have the house standing bleak and bare upon a gravelly knoll; in 1896, it is surrounded with a beautiful lawn and embowered in ornamental trees. This is not in some sub-tropical region, but exactly on the 45th parallel of latitude, which forms the north lines of the states of Vermont and New York; neither is the transformation entirely owing to the fact that it is the home of the genial Horticulturist of the Minnesota State Experiment Station, to whose courtesy we are also indebted for other views used in this book, but a similar reward awaits any one who with practical faith in the old maxim that "what is worth doing at all is worth doing well," will undertake the improvement of his home grounds. It cannot be denied that in some sections of our country the question of an ample water supply troubles those who are trying to establish a good lawn and ornamental plantings, though modern sanitary requirements usually bring about a domestic plant that will serve in vicinity of house. One or two hints may, however, be of service.

Deep and thorough cultivation is an efficient method of overcoming drought, and if the lawn be so prepared and the trees and shrubs planted in holes of generous depth and width, filled with good loam, the roots will strike deep for the required moisture. A heavy mulching of leaves or grass serves as a protection and prevents baking of top soil after rain or watering. If watering is resorted to it is better to be occasional and heavy, rather than often and light, and is preferably done at close of day. In case of evergreens a liberal sprinkling of the foliage often does more good than watering the roots.

### PLATE IV.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 50 feet by 125 feet to alley. South front. House 30 feet by 28 feet, set 40 feet from street and 6 feet from east line.

Like many householders, our friend desires some of the pleasures of rural life on his suburban lot, so the rear portion is set apart for a small garden and poultry yard, and a short arborvitæ hedge at either side of lot hides his successes and failures from the public eye.

To gain wished-for privacy a high trellis fence along west side of lot screens the living room and kitchen. Grape vines are trained upon this, not so much for paying crops as for their foliage.

To further combine pleasure and profit, and perhaps condemn the owner in the eye of the practical gardener, he has placed in front of it a border of hardy perennials, trusting to heavy fertilizing to gain his purpose, though he may find more foliage than either fruit or flowers. Across the path a border of peonies, iris and lilies hides the foundation, and a bridal-wreath spirea marks the junction of the paths, while near end of trellis, stands a weeping mountain ash.

Trumpet honeysuckles screen the veranda from the summer sun, and stronger growing vines are trained upon wire fence on east side of lot. A low, well trimmed hedge of caragana marks the street line, and in spring will be loaded with yellow, pea-like blossoms. A red cedar and two mugho pines are grouped at southeast corner, and a bed of Siberian tamarisk along the fence will harmonize with the evergreens.

The front lawn has been claimed by the lady of the house as her special realm during the summer season, and the formal beds around their vase-crowned center will be bright with her favorite flowers.

### PLATE V.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 40 feet by 125 feet to alley. South front. Grade of lot at house 3 feet below street, but 2 feet above alley. House 22 feet by 28 feet; 8 feet from east line and 60 feet from street.

In selecting this lot the purchaser in the eyes of many was rather rash in view of the large amount of filling involved, but to their surprise, by accepting the situation and placing the house well to rear of lot, a pleasant home was secured, and an amount of seclusion unknown to many occupants of much larger grounds. Of course, care was exercised in grading to so arrange the lawn as to carry all water safely to alley.

Immediately at street line a terrace has been constructed, and steps bring the visitor to the level of the lawn; but looking back from house we find the bank well masked by a border of shrubbery concealing all but the top of fence, and plantings on either side partially hide the houses built nearer the street.

As might be suspected, the owner is a man of fads, and one of these is that our woods and fields are rich in ornamental stock to be drawn on freely, and we find he has so done; for near front of lot stand two canoe birches, near corner of house a hop-hornbeam, and on rear of lot a burr oak planted in place, is rapidly assuming a picturesque form. In the shrubberies close to house we find a mass of red dogwood, flowering currant, sand cherry and honeysuckle vine, while the larger shrubberies are rich in elders, sumachs, juneberry, winterberry, prickly ash, and others.

Another fad is dahlias, and a visit to his collection arranged on either hand of the rear path and on east side of house, would be a revelation to many who believe there is but one variety of this old-fashioned plant, and that not very attractive.

### PLATE VI.

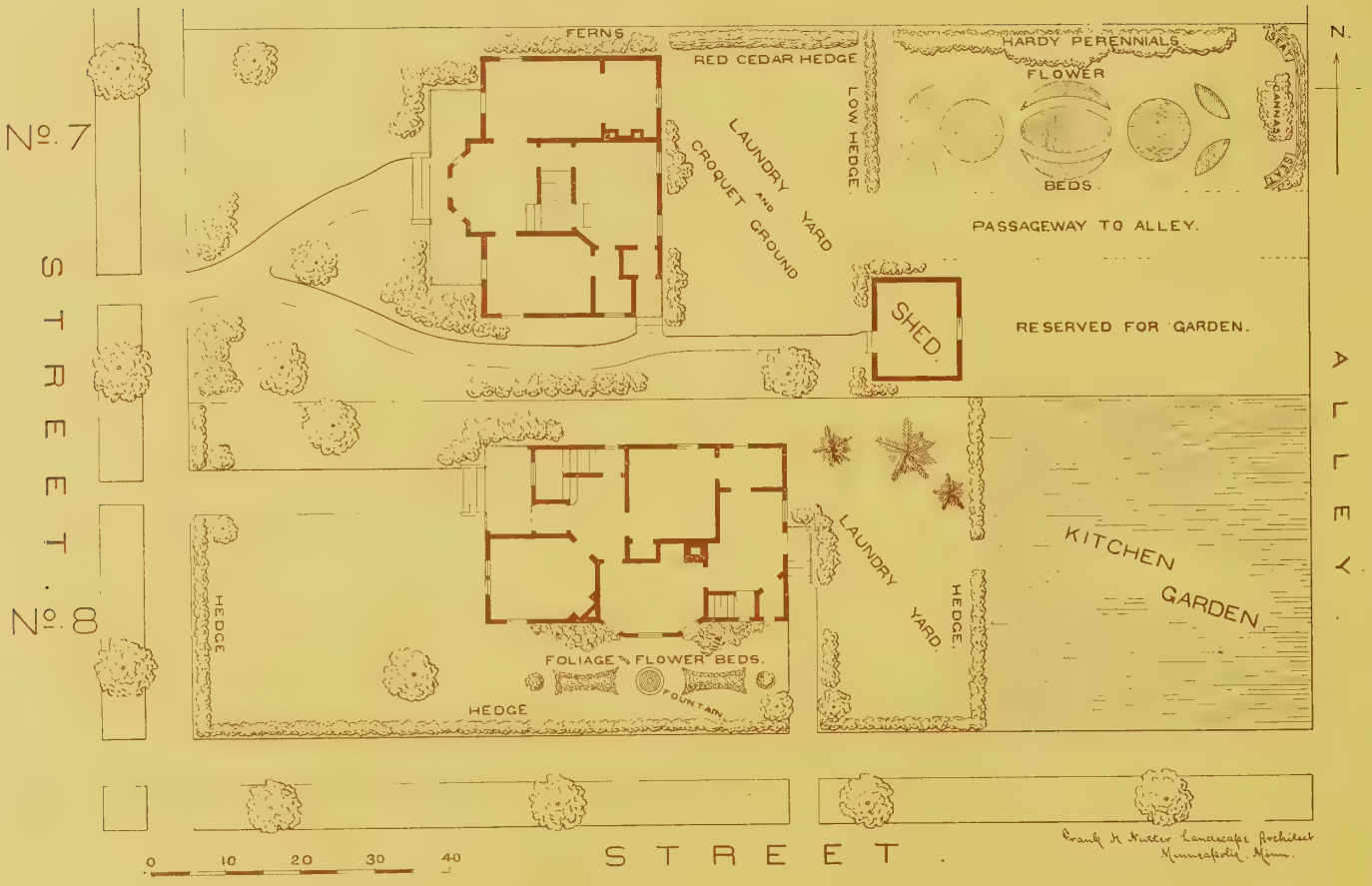
SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 66 feet by 165 feet, on corner, with east frontage. House 35 feet by 28 feet, 55 feet from street in front, 8 feet from north line of lot. Lot level and on grade.

In building house the grade at foundation was raised about two feet, and material from excavation was utilized in constructing lawn, descending with a slightly convex surface from house to sidewalk, with no terraces or abrupt changes.

This lot was unfortunate in its surroundings, especially towards the east, and only the southerly outlook could be called pleasant. This, of course, influenced the planting and arrangement of grounds, and along the east side of lot is a close row of Austrian pine interspersed with mugho pines. The front entrance is also located close to northeast corner of lot, thus avoiding an opening through evergreens in front of house.

A drive and circle entered from side street accommodates kitchen entrance and fuel shed, and in center of circle stands a Wisconsin weeping willow, a tree which in a moderately moist soil gives fine results. Across the drive ample space is afforded for a croquet ground, sheltered on west side by a mixed plantation of European white birch, cornels and cut leaf elder, while in either corner a linden shades the seats placed for the players.

At west end of shed is a group of white and purple lilacs and mock-orange, and between shed and house a mass of various kinds of bush honeysuckles are bright with flowers or berries for most of the year. Flowering currants and shrubby cinque-foil screen the back veranda, and snowballs and viburnums guard the entrance. By front steps are set masses of several species of spirea, the larger growing kinds to the north, the dwarf varieties mingled with purple barberry and berberis Thunbergii on the south.


No. 7 STREET. No. 8
FERNS
RED CEDAR HEDGE
LOW HEDGE
HARDY PERENNIALS
FLOWER
BEDS
CANNAS
CROQUET AND LAUNDRY YARD
PASSAGEWAY TO ALLEY.
SHED.
RESERVED FOR GARDEN.
N.
ALLEY.
LAUNDRY YARD.
HEDGE.
KITCHEN GARDEN
HEDGE
FOLIAGE & FLOWER BEDS.
FOUNTAIN
HEDGE
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STREET.
Frank H. Nutter Landscape Architect Minneapolis, Minn.

STABLE
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0 10 20 30 40 50
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.

There are many who think and speak of winter as a season of desolation, in which the lover of nature can only hover around the fire and brood over the past or look forward impatiently to the return of spring. This is a great mistake ; rather is it a time when we may greet many of our friends in a new garb or perhaps lack of same, which will bring out fresh and unexpected beauties. As the scientist finds in the skeletons of his specimens the key to their life-histories, so the naked forms of our deciduous trees outlined against the sky explain the varying charms of their summer forms, and never is an oak more sturdy and dignified, and an elm or birch more graceful than when the wintry winds are whistling through their leafless branches.

Neither is the charm of contrasted color lacking to the planter who arranges his grounds with an eye to winter effect; this has already been hinted at in the introduction, but the riches even of our coldest climate in this direction are but little appreciated. The mountain ash and the thorn tree carry their burden of fruit well into the winter, and among our shrubberies the barberry, bush cranberry, some varieties of honeysuckle, the winterberry, and hardy roses give us brilliant effects in red and scarlet which do not lose in attractiveness if perchance they should be entwined with the feathery seed-plumes of the native clematis; the crimson fruit-clusters of the sumach and the richly tinted seeds of the mountain maple will not be forgotten by those who have explored a northern thicket. Most attractive results are also obtained by the use of the richly colored golden willow, the crimson-barked dogwood, the striped maple and others of this class; and a group of white birches against a background of evergreens is a thing of beauty at any season.

To the various evergreen conifers we turn instinctively for a bright spot in the winter landscape, and though often their cultivation may involve care and anxiety, they richly repay it all. Too many planters, however, have a barbarous habit of maltreating an evergreen and trim away the lower branches, without which it can be but a caricature of its real self ; if the knife must be used at all, do it above, rather than below.

The accompanying view of evergreens is not introduced to illustrate ornamental planting, but that the reader may more fully appreciate the true beauty of a vigorous and healthy specimen.

### PLATE VII.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 50 feet by 150 feet to alley. West front. House 35 feet by 24 feet, 40 feet from street, 5 feet from north line.

The alley affording access for teams, a single front entrance with paths dividing near gate accommodates the pedestrian.

Two hard maples stand near curb line, their heavy foliage giving welcome shade from the afternoon sun. A Napoleon willow grafted about five feet high on a hardy upright variety forms a beautiful weeping tree at the junction of the paths, and on either side of the lawn a royal willow trained to branch close to the ground attracts much attention by its silvery foliage. Near lot line and in front of shed stands another willow, the Russian golden, beautiful alike in summer and winter. In case it should in time tend to outgrow its position it will bear a large amount of surgery unharmed. At left of front gate is a group of hydrangeas, and on the right a mass of strawberry-bush, Indian currant and waxberry; at north end of veranda a bed of red and white rugosa roses are attractive both in flower and fruit, and beyond them in shade of house is a flourishing fernery, where but little else would grow. At south end of veranda, a collection of dwarf spireas of many varieties is seen, and a hedge of lilacs shades the pathway. The rear lawn is sheltered on north by a high hedge of red cedar, and beyond a low trimmed hedge of savin are some flower beds cut in the turf, with a border of hardy perennials in shelter of the fence.

To insure more privacy a trellis has been built at rear end of lawn, covered with ornamental vines, in the curving bays of which are seats for the tired gardener with canopies of wild grape and woodbine overhead and a bed of caladiums and cannas between.

### PLATE VIII.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Corner lot, 45 feet by 150 feet. West front. House 24 feet by 40 feet, 40 feet from front, and 15 feet from side street.

As some protection is especially needed on a corner lot to guard it from the well known Yankee propensity to "cut across," a low hedge was deemed necessary in this case and a suitable shrub was found in the caragana fruticosa with its delicate foliage and golden flowers, while the entrances are emphasized by a specimen of the caragana arborescens on either side, trained in a more upright form. As a higher hedge was desired to screen the garden from the house, Russia was again called upon and its native mulberry used, partly in hopes that it would also serve another end and by its abundant but rather insipid fruit crop entice the birds from the strawberry bed.

The lot having been overgrown with wild plum trees two of them on front lawn were reserved for ornamental purposes and "top-worked" with the flowering almond, one white, the other rose colored, and the result has been both a surprise and a delight.

For the benefit of an invalid who mostly must occupy the side bay-window a formal flower-bed has been prepared with small fountain in center; against the house, on either side of bay, beds of peonies, dicentra, columbine, etc., furnish flowers and foliage in spring and early summer.

Beside the path to rear entrance and around rear veranda, the laundry yard is screened by a hedge of lonicera Ruprechtiana, with pale foliage and load of scarlet berries too bitter even for the birds to eat.

At rear of laundry yard a Douglas spruce and couple of Siberian arborvitæs afford further protection.

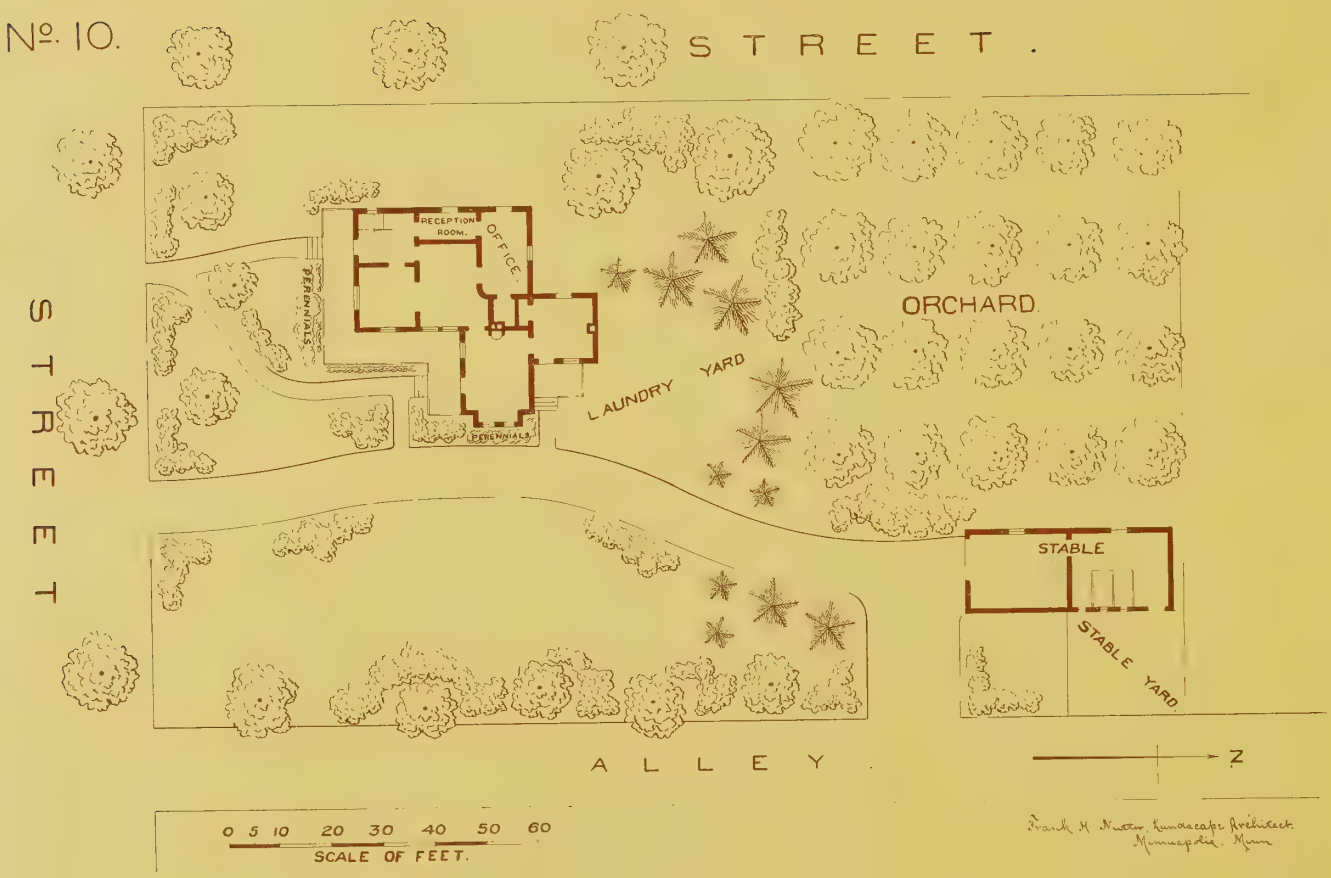
### PLATE IX.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 132 feet by 165 feet to alley. East front. House 32 feet by 34 feet, 38 feet from front street and 20 feet from north line of lot. Grade rises 3 feet from side street to house, but lawn is graded on a gentle slope, with no terrace.

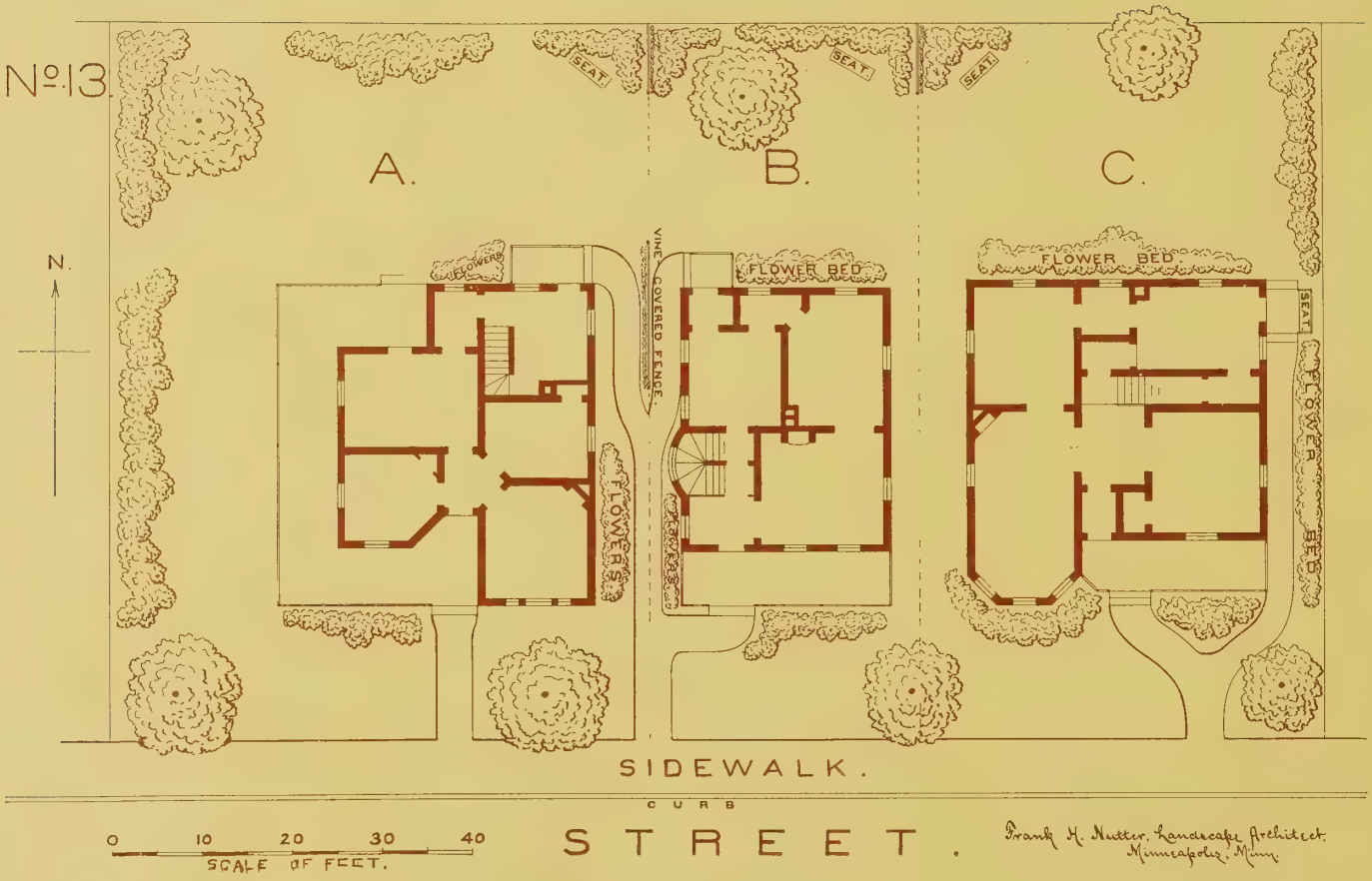
In order to get as wide and unbroken lawn spaces as possible, the buildings are placed near north line of lot, the carriage drive passes directly by end of veranda which serves as stepping block, thence to stable and alley, while a circle by kitchen entrance accommodates teams from either front or rear; no separate foot path is made in front, but a narrow one leads directly from side street to drive, whence either door can be reached.

For the amusement of the younger members of the family a tennis court has been prepared on rear of lot where a space of the regulation size has been secured and a level grade obtained by cutting at north and filling at south end. Three hackberry trees on west side shade the court and another stands at its northeast corner. A screen of Tartarian maple hides the stable door; at side gate a linden on either hand overarches the path, and in circle of drive an elm of vase-like form shelters a seat built around its body. Two gingko trees stand beside front drive between the beds of shrubbery, and a couple of cockspur thorns, trained as trees, stand near front line. On north side of house, under parlor windows is a rockery draped with ferns and suitable plants and backed by a group of dwarf evergreens, while between house and stable a group of spruce and arborvitæ give shelter from the north winds.

The balance of shrubbery, etc., are made up of the well-known hardy varieties, most of which have already been referred to elsewhere.


No. 10.
STREET.
STREET
RECEPTION ROOM.
OFFICE.
STEPPING STONES
PERENNIALS
LAUNDRY YARD
ORCHARD.
STABLE
STABLE YARD
ALLEY
N
0 5 10 20 30 40 50 60
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank M. Nutter, Landscape Architect.
Minneapolis, Minn.

ALLEY.
CROQUET LAWN.
WALL
HARDY PERENNIALS
FOLIAGE BEDS
TRAINING
FERNS
PERENNIALS
STREET. No. 11.
0 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET.
ALLEY.
SHED
LILIES, IRIS, GLADIOLI, YUCCA, ETC.
STREET. No. 12.
Drawn by Miss Kate Sanderson, Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.


No. 13.
A.
B.
C.
SEAT
SEAT
SEAT
N.
FLOWERS
VINE COVERED FENCE.
FLOWER BED
FLOWER BED
SEAT
FLOWER BED
FLOWERS
SIDEWALK.
CURB
STREET.
0 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect.
Minneapolis, Minn.

### PLATE X.

In this instance we deal with existing and somewhat unfortunate conditions. The house was planned and built by owner, a country physician, to meet his special needs; the lot is 120 feet by 200 feet, and on the side abuts upon an alley, across which are some very unattractive buildings.

To conceal these we have a row of low-branching box-elders filled in with a shrubbery belt of laurel-leaf and golden willows and red dogwood.

North and northeast of house is a group of evergreens, including Douglas and white spruce, red cedar, Siberian arborvitæ and mugho pine, protecting the laundry yard and further concealing the alley and stable. With these are several groups of the Russian olive, noticeable for their vigorous shrubby growth and silvery foliage.

On account of exposure to prairie winds green ash are used as street trees.

On front lawn are two Wier's maples, and a weeping mountain ash at junction of paths. Virginia creeper and wild grape shade the veranda, and both in front and at side of house are beds of hardy plants. Spireas, caragana, tamarisk, snowberries, lilacs and honeysuckles make up most of the shrubberies.

### PLATE XI.

Specifications.—Lot 50 feet by 125 feet to alley; house 37 feet by 33 feet, 47 feet from street, and 3 feet from north line of lot.

Again the topography of grounds suggest their treatment, the rear half being on grade with alley, while in front they slope abruptly to street several feet below; so a rock-faced retaining wall four feet in height has been built across the lot at line of veranda, with steps down to front lawn.

This architectural treatment admits of garden effects, so the center of this lawn is devoted to foliage beds and ornamental vase.

The steps are partially concealed by masses of bush honeysuckle, including the Albert's, the fragrant, Morrow's and the Siberian, in addition to the Tartarian; trumpet honeysuckles drape the wall and veranda. At either end of wall is a group of hydrangeas, and near street line are two cork-barked elms with a bed of snowballs and bush cranberries between.

At side of rear path, in shade of adjoining close fence is a border of ferns. The rear lawn in contrast to the front is a quiet stretch of turf shaded by a linden and protected on north by a couple of hackberries and border of hardy shrubs.

### PLATE XII.

Specifications.—Lot 45 feet by 125 feet to alley. House 31 feet by 40 feet; 61 feet from street, 5 feet from north line of lot.

As the ground rises evenly from front to rear the house is placed as far back as possible, thus obtaining an ample front lawn, and considerable height above the street without expensive grading.

The walks being on north side of lot, the south lawn is unbroken from front to rear, adding to apparent size of grounds. Vines are freely used on bay and also screen the front door, but from window of reception hall an unobstructed view of street is had.

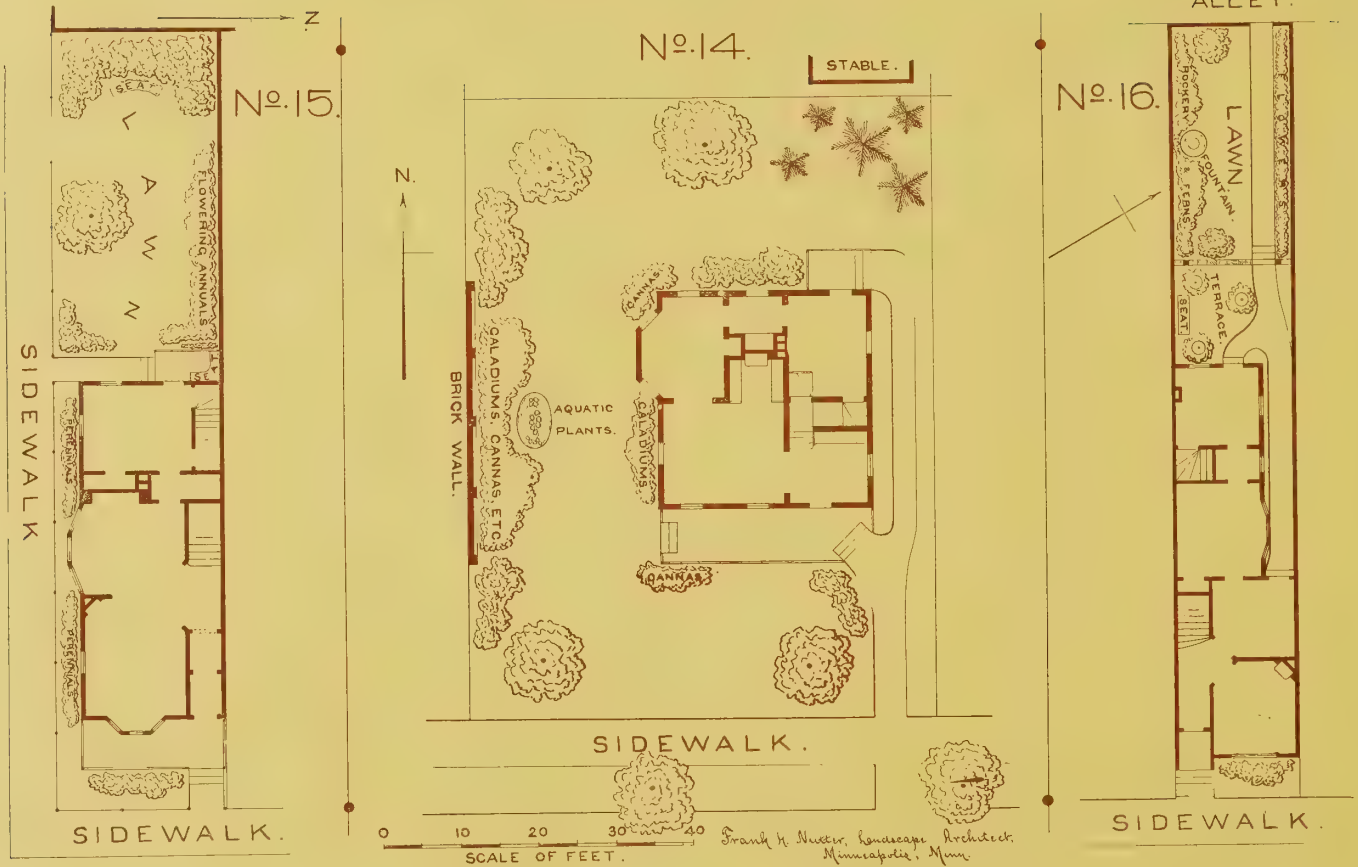
On north side of front path is a border of shrubs with two European white birch, and on the other side is placed a cut-leaf birch in contrast. At veranda is a group of ash-leaf and bridal-wreath spireas and hydrangeas; near south side of lawn a couple of box-elders and a group of shrubbery brightened with golden spirea. At side of house a bed of perennials is enlivened in summer by the addition of the more tender iris, lilies, yucca, etc. In the rear a scarlet maple adds its brightness, and vines and shrubs conceal the shed.

### PLATE XIII.

To the occupant of a small lot it is often an apparently hopeless task to secure anything in the way of lawn or trees, but where there is willing co-operation in the good work the case is not so desperate as it seems, and it is even possible to secure breadth of lawn and wealth of foliage.

In the illustration before us we have three adjacent lots of an equal depth of eighty feet; "A" with a frontage of sixty feet; "B" of thirty feet, and "C" of forty-five feet. The houses are set fifteen feet from street line; in lot "A," six feet from east line of lot; the others in center of their respective parcels. Houses A and B being so planned as to allow it the foot path is laid on the property line to be used in common, thus sparing as much as possible the narrow lot. As, however, housewives wish for privacy while about their home work the path divides near rear of house, passing on either side of a vine-covered trellis which screens kitchen and back porches.

On lot "C" the path leads from one gateway to both entrances, and on the back porch a covered seat is provided. A neat iron fence runs along front of all the lots, and a row of trees is set a few feet inside it, at either end a Lombardy poplar, the intermediate ones, weeping mountain ash. On rear of "A" and "C" stand a couple of sugar maples, and of "B" a canoe birch. To secure for each owner some measure of privacy vine-covered fences extend on division lines several feet from rear fence and in the corners thus secured seats are placed, but along center line of back lawns there is unobscured view from end to end, where thick hedges of shrubs shut out unpleasant scenes beyond. To gratify the taste for brighter things each lot has beds of flowering plants as shown, beside groups of shrubbery.


Nº.15.
Z
LAWN
FLOWERING ANNUALS
SIDEWALK
SIDEWALK.
Nº.14.
STABLE.
N.
BRICK WALL.
CALADIUMS, CANNAS, ETC.
AQUATIC PLANTS.
CANNAS
CALADIUMS.
SIDEWALK.
0 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.
Nº.16.
ALLEY.
HOOKERY
LAWN
FOUNTAIN
& FERNS.
TERRACE
SEAT
SIDEWALK.

### PLATE XIV.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Village lot, 60 feet front by 80 feet deep, facing south. House 28 feet by 28 feet, 8 feet from east line and 27 feet from street.

There being no need of a drive on so shallow a lot and one path accommodating both entrances a point is gained, for the house is surrounded on three sides by an unbroken lawn; there is, however, "a fly in the ointment," for directly west are some very unsightly buildings. The owner is however equal to the occasion for he has built on line of lot and of sufficient length and height to cut off all view of these buildings from the house, a paneled brick wall with stone coping; this being flanked at either end with a mass of shrubs, flowering cherries and almonds, June berries, etc., to give brightness in early spring, before the other plantings come forward. Vines also creep along the wall. Next to these shrubs stand two thrifty specimens of the striped maple, branching from the ground. At rear of lot is planted a black cherry, though it requires much attention to free it from its enemies, the tent caterpillars. By front gate we find a Ginnala maple, a dwarf tree with wealth of autumn color. In front of brick wall is the owner's pride, a large bed devoted to foliage plants, castor beans, cannas, caladiums, etc., while nestled in its border is a cemented pool, curbed flush with lawn, in which grows a native lotus and a couple of semi-hardy water lilies; all these plants of course have to be carefully stored in winter. Opposite these at side of house are beds of perennial flowers. Steps at end of front veranda lead down to lawn, whose thick rich turf leaves nothing to be desired in the way of more formal paths. Beds of dwarf shrubs screen the front steps and rear piazza, and in rear corner of lot a group of spruces and arborvitæ hide an adjoining stable.

### PLATE XV.

The city dweller often longs for something to remind him of his old country home and in the instance before us has labored hard to get the little "touch of nature" so much desired. A corner lot, 22 feet by 100 feet, facing east and south is the extent of his domain, on which stands the house, 18 feet by 44 feet, built with party-wall and leaving unoccupied a lawn in rear, about 40 feet in length, enclosed on north by high brick wall, on west by brick dwelling adjoining.

On narrow strip in front of house are some dwarf shrubs, caragana, purple barberry and berberis Thunbergii, and at side, beds of peonies, dicentra, iris, etc., protected from the passers-by by an iron fence which runs along the street lines.

Vines of the Boston ivy starting from these beds cling with tenacious tendrils to the brick wall of house.

At side gate is a bed of purple barberry, lighted up in late summer by the bright blossoms of the intermingled shrubby cinque-foil.

The only tree for which room can be found is a flowering crab, in spring a mass of bloom; in autumn equally attractive with its waxen fruit but a great temptation to the small boys.

At foot of north wall is found space for a bed of flowering annuals in which may be seen a general mixture; but from its sheltered position and an abundance of water always bright with blossoms.

At rear of lot is the "thicket," a growth of elders, dogwoods, sumach and other spoils of an occasional half-holiday in the country; when one dies or shows signs of incurable homesickness another is sought to fill the place; a wild grape vine wanders here at its own sweet will and the whole affords shelter for a seat, on which or on the vine-covered bench at back piazza our friend may rest and enjoy the pleasures of a land-owner.

### PLATE XVI.

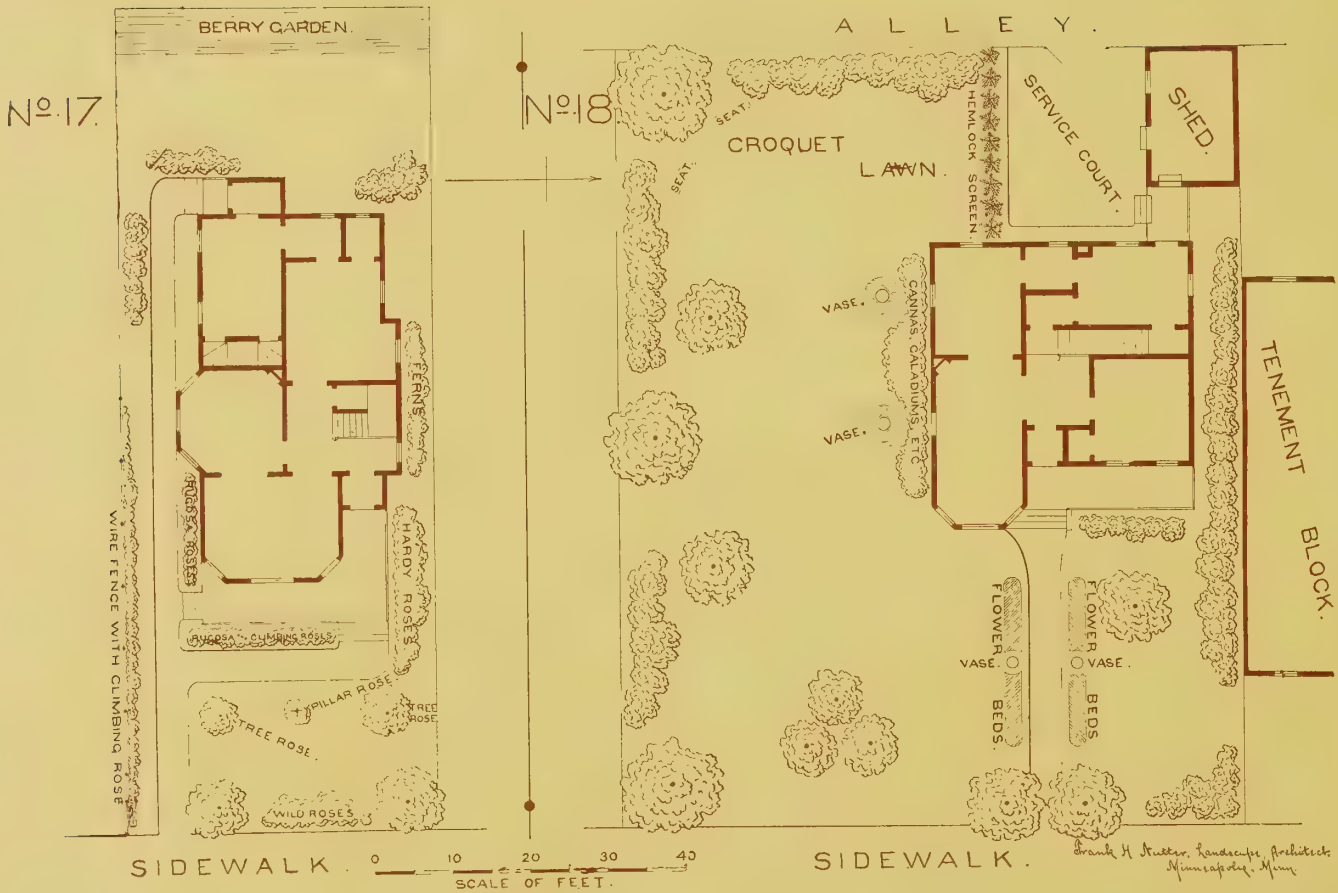
Again we consider the trials and troubles of the city dweller and here we may say that we have them to their extreme, for a lot 16 feet in width, and 100 feet in depth from street in front, to alley in rear, and hemmed in on either side by buildings seems neither to offer much scope for endeavor or hope for results. As turf is always ornamental we place our house back 5 feet and gain room for a bit of grass and a little mass of privet which can always be kept within bounds by the shears. A Virginia creeper climbs up the angle of the vestibule and drapes across the top of front window. To afford a lighted basement the foundation of house is raised in front, but from rear doors we pass down a couple of steps only, onto a terraced court extending to a retaining wall about 13 feet back from house, on which are pedestals for two vases of plants.

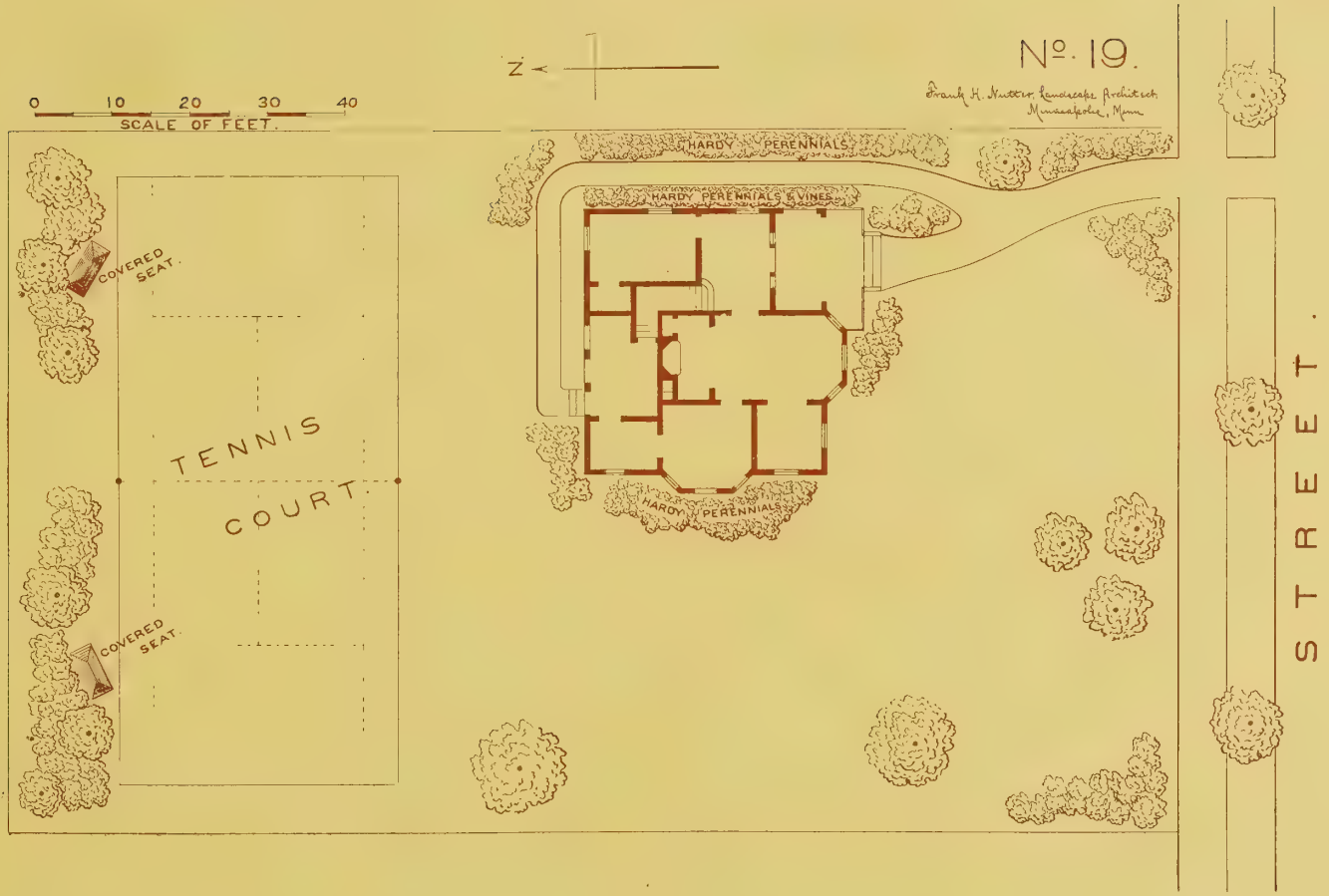
A seat is placed on this terrace in the shade of adjoining wall; also three English hollies in tubs that they may be wintered under cover.

Beyond this wall, on grade of alley, and with narrow path leading through it, is our "park."

Between path and wall is a narrow bed of perennials, and in shade of south wall a rockery has been built up and stocked with a goodly supply of hardy ferns and kindred plants; and to add the pleasant sound of dropping water we have a little fountain established for the benefit of the birds and may be sure it will be well patronized.

Two shrubs complete our plantings. Next to alley a Siberian tamarisk, and at foot of terrace a tree generally in bad odor, literally and metaphorically, with mankind, the ailanthus; but cut back to the ground every winter, as the weather will do, if severe, it sends up fronds of immense leaves, more tropical in appearance than any of our ferns, and without the offensive blossoms.


No. 17.
BERRY GARDEN.
FERNS.
HARDY ROSES.
RUGOSA CLIMBING ROSES.
PILLAR ROSE.
TREE ROSE.
TREE ROSE.
WILD ROSES.
WIRE FENCE WITH CLIMBING ROSE.
SIDEWALK.
No. 18.
ALLEY.
SEAT.
SEAT.
CROQUET LAWN.
HEMLOCK SCREEN.
SERVICE COURT.
SHED.
VASE.
VASE.
CANNAS, CALADIUMS, ETC.
TENEMENT BLOCK.
FLOWER BEDS.
VASE.
FLOWER BEDS.
VASE.
SIDEWALK.
0 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Stutter, Landscape Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.


No. 19.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.
N
0 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET.
HARDY PERENNIALS
HARDY PERENNIALS & VINES
HARDY PERENNIALS
COVERED SEAT.
COVERED SEAT.
TENNIS COURT.
STREET.

An error common to most inexperienced planters is to scatter their plantings most impartially over the entire lawn, arguing, perhaps, that it is impossible to have too much of a good thing; but in the end they find that they have only a cluttered collection of trees and shrubs so arranged that their individual beauties cannot be appreciated, and taken as a whole, without any beauty. A broad and sunlit lawn is essential if our homestead is to have the air of dignified repose so much desired, and to gain this the intruding growths must be banished to the outer boundaries of the area and the foliage beds, so beloved by many, should generally receive the same sentence, for they may be used with more striking effect in connection with the shrubberies or near house or some architectural feature. In planting, a distinction should be made between single trees and shrubs and masses of the same; in the first instance the individual specimen should be carefully selected and placed so far alone as to allow its beauties to be fully seen, at the same time grouping well with the plantings as a whole.

In massing, while perfect health and beauty in each specimen is required, it is the beauty of the group as a whole that is sought, and to this the individual must be subordinated; so thick planting, thorough cultivation and constant care and supervision are necessary; the arrangement of the different species in the group also requires thoughtful attention. The lower view on this page shows such a group.

Water gives to the landscape a most welcome touch of life and light, and also affords an opportunity to become acquainted with many rare varieties of plant life. The view here given of an artificial pool in Como Park, St. Paul, shows what may be done even in a severe climate, where, of course, the Victoria regia lily as well as other exotics must be carefully housed in winter. The cultivation of aquatics now attracts much attention, and there are many varieties which thrive in very contracted quarters, only requiring to be protected in winter from absolute freezing, and may be carried over to spring in any good cellar if the pool be too shallow.

Native bog plants with reeds and rushes mingle gracefully with shrubs and other plants, and should be used oftener than they are; many a lawn of but limited extent might have a small collection of water plants, as shown on Plate XIV., and if the careful housewife should object that mosquitoes might also abound, one or two gold fish or "shiners" would speedily care for them and other intruders. In the most contracted quarters a little fountain jet may be provided, and with a graceful setting of vines and appropriate plants will become a thing of beauty and a rendezvous beloved by the birds.

### PLATE XVII.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 40 feet by 120 feet to alley. East frontage. House 29 feet by 47 feet, 32 feet back from street and 4 feet from north line of lot. Only the front 100 feet of this lot is shown in plate, the rest being used as a small berry patch; but enough is given to convince us that the owner is an enthusiast in one direction at least.

To get as much lawn as possible in front of house and to secure a certain degree of privacy for the veranda the paths are arranged as shown. In corner of lot stands a flowering crab-tree and by front gate a weeping mountain ash, a row of hydrangeas border the path near rear door, the piazza of which is screened by a row of white and purple Persian lilacs; at opposite rear corner of house is a group of snowballs, and under dining room and hall windows, on north side of house, is a bed of ferns and kindred plants.

All other plantings serve to illustrate the beauties and riches of a single family,—the roses; and it would require an expert to write understandingly of all the details. A wire fence erected along south side of lot to library bay is festooned with climbing roses of different kinds and colors, some of which are also used to decorate the veranda. In front of veranda and on south side of house are the rugosa roses and their hybrids with blossoms of red and white, followed by immense "hips" of brilliant hue. On front lawn stands a pillar supporting a prairie rose, with a tree rose, trained in standard form, on either side; while near street is a bed of several varieties of native wild roses with a grace all their own; and on north side of veranda a large bed of various kinds of hardy perpetual roses, Not only in summer, but also in winter with their bright fruits burning against the snow do these plants delight all observers.

### PLATE XVIII.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 80 feet front by 100 feet deep. East front. House 33 feet by 39 feet, 38 feet from street and 6 feet from north line.

Here again the owner labors under a disadvantage, for a row of "flats" has been erected close to his property line, shutting him in very effectually on that side.

Planning the buildings accordingly our friend sets his house as specified, connected with a shed in rear by a covered passage. A service court opening directly from alley furnishes all needed entrance to rear of house; and a path runs from street directly to front door, leaving a large and unbroken lawn across south side of lot. A hedge of buckthorn conceals to a certain extent the walls of adjoining flats, a group of hydrangeas occupies corner of lot and a bed of forsythias extends along front of veranda.

Meeting to form an arch over the gateway are two catalpas, an elder-leaf mountain ash stands in front of house and a group composed of one Britzensis and two royal willows stand on other side of path. Along south line of lot are placed three canoe birches with belts of hardy shrubs between, while in front of shrubberies stand a couple of Weir's maples. Along alley line another belt of shrubs gives seclusion to the small croquet lawn and seats thereon placed, and a close hedge of hemlock separates it from the service court.

Flowers are not entirely overlooked for the front path is bordered with narrow beds devoted to geraniums, verbenas and other oldtime favorites, and beside house under the windows of the sitting and dining rooms is a mass of cannas, caladiums, etc., in front of which are a pair of vases, their pedestals surrounded by circular beds of blue, white and variegated periwinkle.

### PLATE XIX.

SPECIFICATIONS.—Lot 90 feet by 150 feet, south front. House 34 feet by 31 feet, 45 feet from street and 10 feet from line of lot.

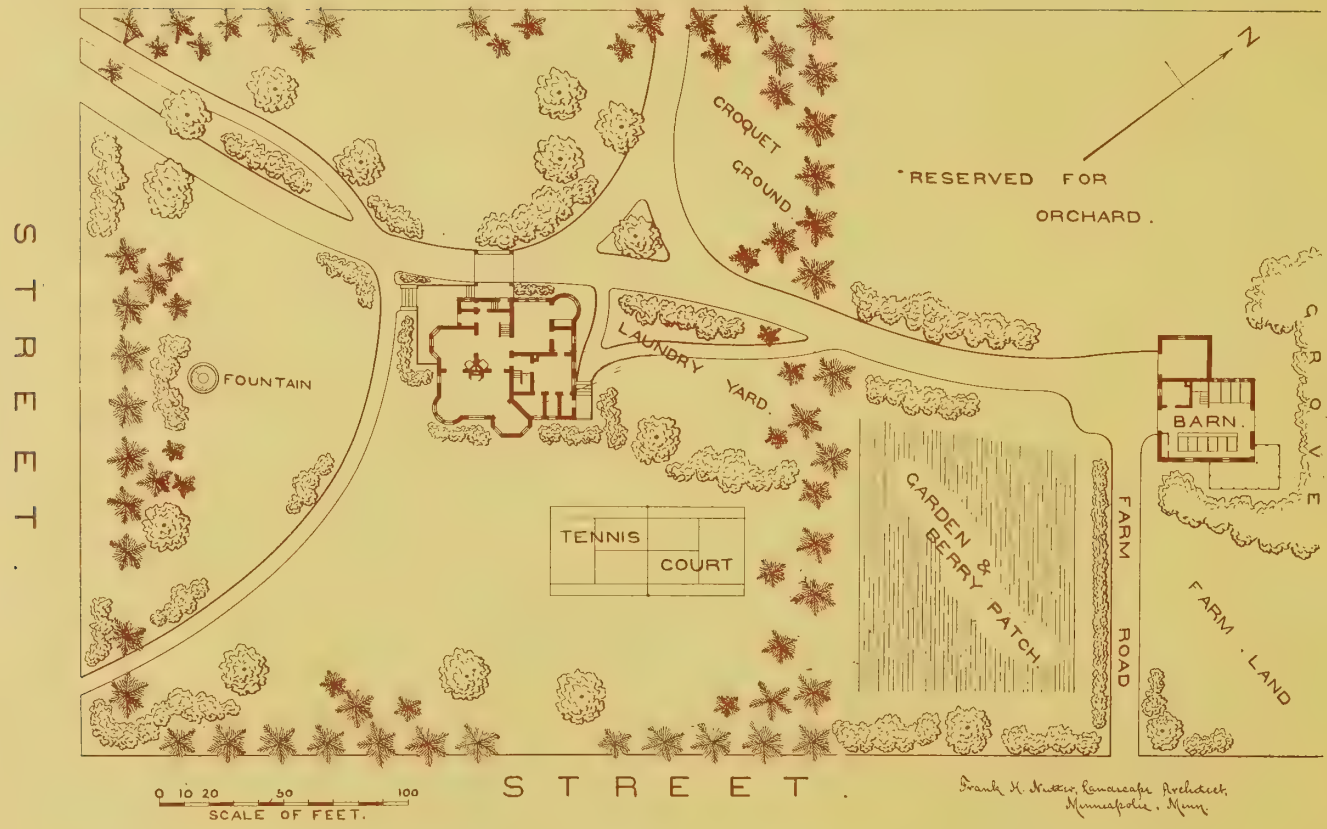
The house on this lot stands on a plateau, the edge of which originally ran diagonally from the front entrance to the west end of tennis court, but the material excavated from cellar has been used to relieve the abruptness of the declivity and harmonize it more fully with its surroundings; and now the lawn presents a graceful slope, dropping about six feet from house to southwest corner of lot, and two feet to northeast corner.

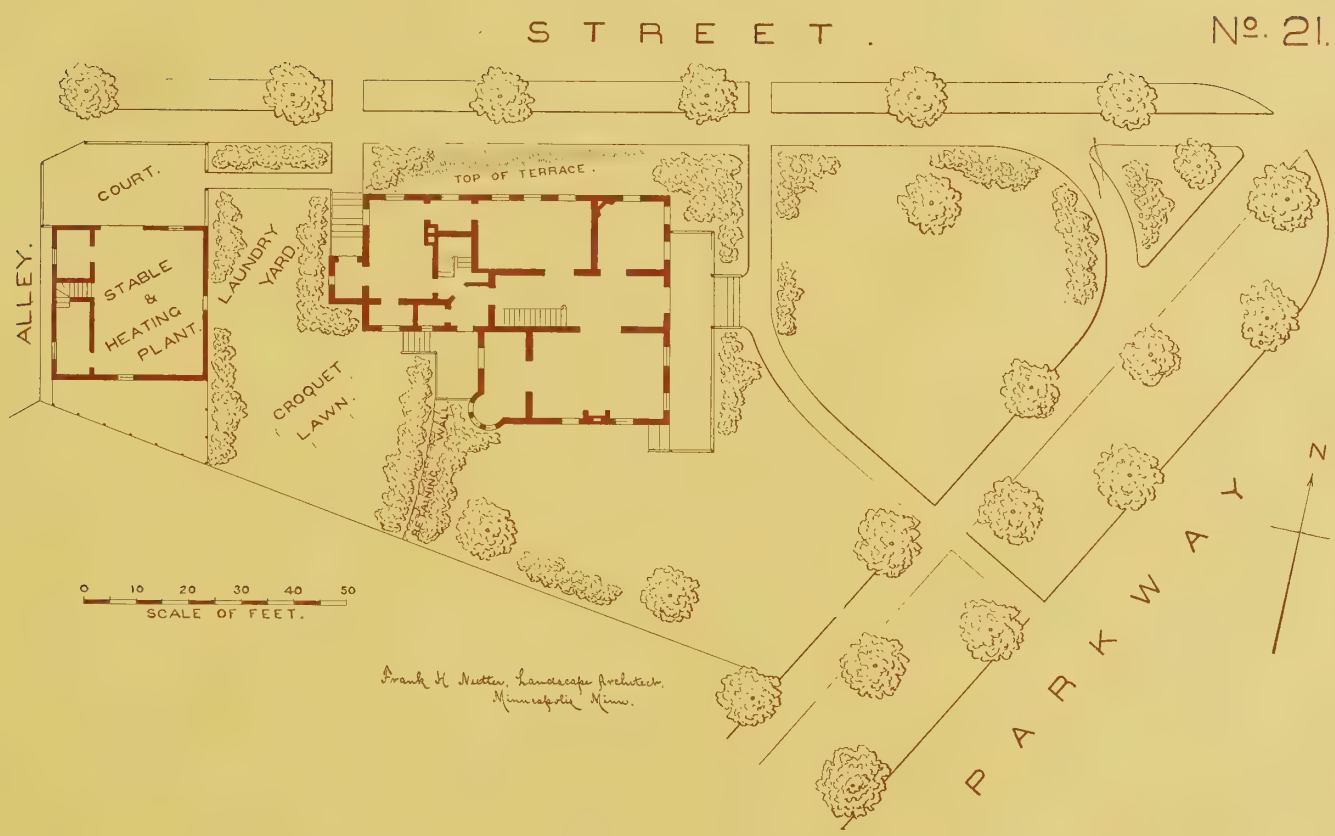
It was the wish of owner to make a very simple setting for the home, economical both in first cost and maintenance, and so all exotic plants and expensive ornamentation have been omitted, and the principal beauty of the place is the broad and well kept lawn.

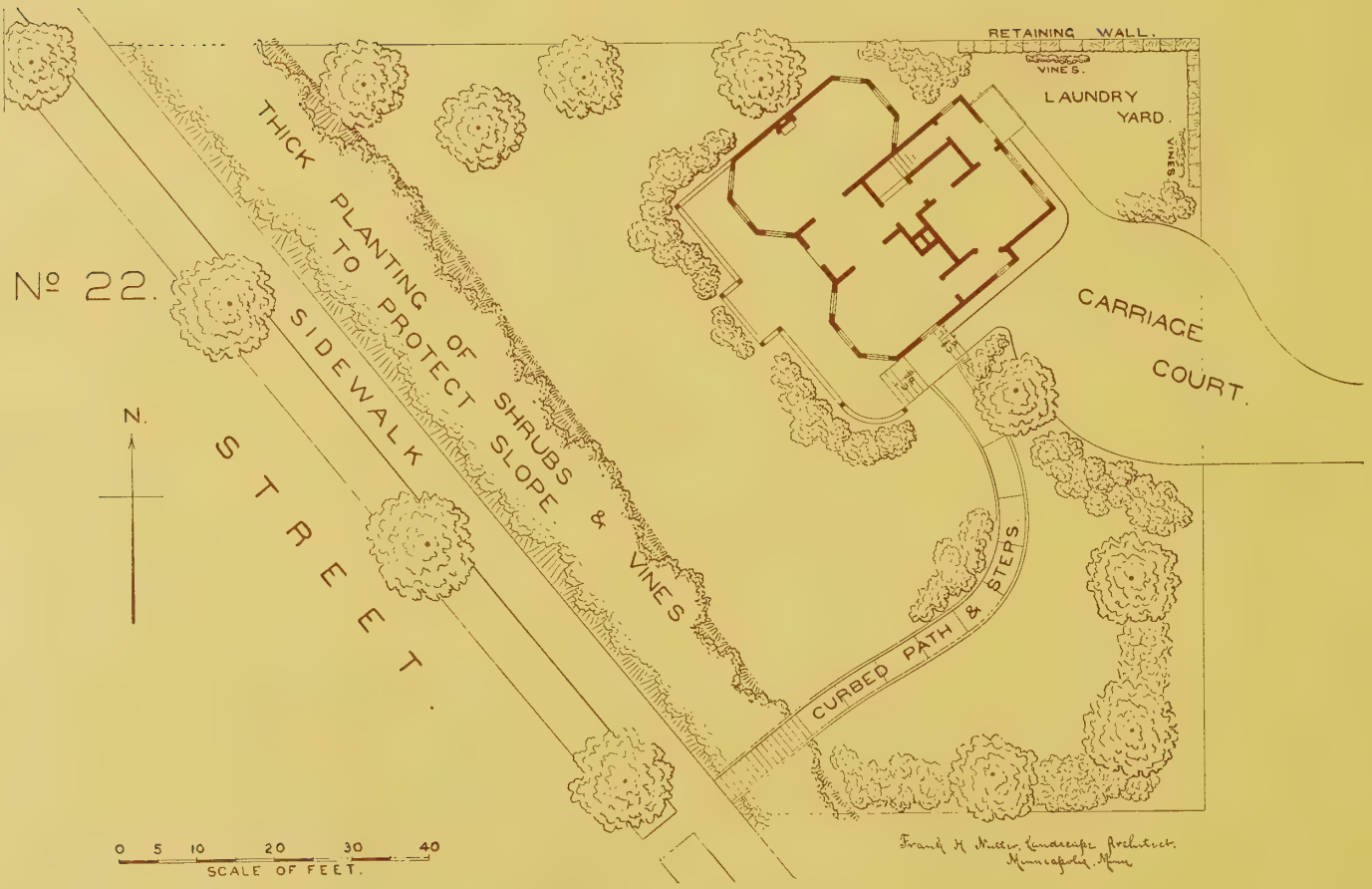
Flowers, however, are not wanting, for the path to rear of house is bordered on either hand with hardy perennials, and on opposite side of house is a similar bed; here may not only be found the old favorites, monkshood, columbine, larkspur, garden pink, phlox, hollyhock, etc., but also novelties both from the plant dealer and from the adjacent pastures, all flourishing together.

On rear of lot is a tennis court, overlooked from canopied seats backed by masses of shrubbery made up of thorn trees and bird cherries, with an undergrowth of elder, sumach and cornels. Near west line of lot stand two specimens of the "water beech" (carpinus caroliniana), nearer the street a group of three honey locusts, and a European white birch by junction of paths. Masses of hydrangeas and spireas mask the foundation of house, and snowballs, bush honeysuckles, lilacs and other tall shrubs are found in the plantings near street line.

No. 20.


STREET.
CROQUET GROUND
RESERVED FOR ORCHARD.
N
FOUNTAIN
LAUNDRY YARD.
BARN.
GROVE
TENNIS COURT
GARDEN & BERRY PATCH.
FARM ROAD
FARM LAND
STREET.
STREET.
0 10 20 50 100
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.


STREET.
No. 21.
COURT.
TOP OF TERRACE.
ALLEY.
STABLE & HEATING PLANT
LAUNDRY YARD
CROQUET LAWN
0 10 20 30 40 50
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect.
Minneapolis, Minn.
PARKWAY
N


RETAINING WALL.
VINES.
LAUNDRY YARD.
VINES.
CARRIAGE COURT.
THICK PLANTING OF SHRUBS & VINES TO PROTECT SLOPE
SIDEWALK
STREET.
CURBED PATH & STEPS
N.
0 5 10 20 30 40
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Miller, Landscape Architect. Minneapolis, Minn.

No 22.

### PLATE XX.

Here we have a homestead on the outskirts of a large village, the dwelling situated on a block 300 feet in width from street to street, and running back to the farming lands in the rear. The house stands about eight feet above the street in front, across which some neglected low lands are a blot in the landscape.

As the residence may be approached by either street the walk is arranged to accommodate both routes. The drives are laid out to serve both the house and farm traffic.

The planting plan was influenced by the fact that the block was surrounded by a row of Norway spruce and Scotch pine, most of which from their beauty and from old associations it was decided to retain. The few existing gaps were in favorable places to afford attractive outlooks; so the monotony of the old planting was broken up by the use of other and finer evergreens, white and Douglas spruce, mugho pine and pyramidal arborvitæ, arranged to combine happily with the older trees. For the larger deciduous trees, green ash, elm and linden were mostly used. with a few canoe birches among the evergreens in front, and thorn trees and crabs mingled with the shrubs in rear of house. A tennis court on one side of house and a croquet ground among the evergreens on the other, are provided for the young people; a well sheltered laundry yard lies by kitchen door, and on front lawn is a good-sized fountain basin, its jets sparkling against the mass of shrubbery and evergreen behind it, which also conceal the waste lands across street. The list of shrubs shows no novelties, the much-used hydrangeas and spireas being in the majority around the house; for the balance, standard native and cultivated varieties are used. A hedge of golden willow divides garden from farm road.

### PLATE XXI.

Specifications.—An irregular shaped lot at the junction of two streets; one a parkway 100 feet in width, thirty feet of which on each side, reserved for sidewalk and boulevard, is planted with a triple row of trees; the other a sixty-foot street; alley in rear. House an "old colonial" mansion, placed well toward back of lot. Grade of side street falls quite rapidly from front of house to alley. No fences or mark of division along street lines. The heating plant being in basement of stable no drive to house is needed. A path approaches the front steps at right angles from each street, thus leaving a broad lawn space in front of house as well as on south side. This side lawn is carried back practically level to front of back veranda where a substantial retaining wall provides for the difference in grade; this wall is concealed by dwarf shrubs, Indian currant, snowberry and tamarisk planted along the top, and a hedge of lilacs, mock orange and burning bush at its base. Large shrubs also mask the stable, and this lower lawn affords a retired croquet ground and a laundry yard.

As the street trees supply all desired shade only small and ornamental varieties are used on lawn. In triangle near street junction stands a cut-leaf birch and near side street a Weir's maple; near south line of lot are two miniature maples; next the street a Ginnala, near the wall a Tartarian. In front of front steps is a bed made up of purple barberry and yuccas, both common and variegated. At left of steps is a mass of many of the hardy varieties of spirea; at the right and at right of side entrance, groups of hydrangea. The shrubberies near apex of lawn are of varieties which can be trained low, and on rear of grounds are found those of coarser growth, but none the less beautiful under careful cultivation.

### PLATE XXII.

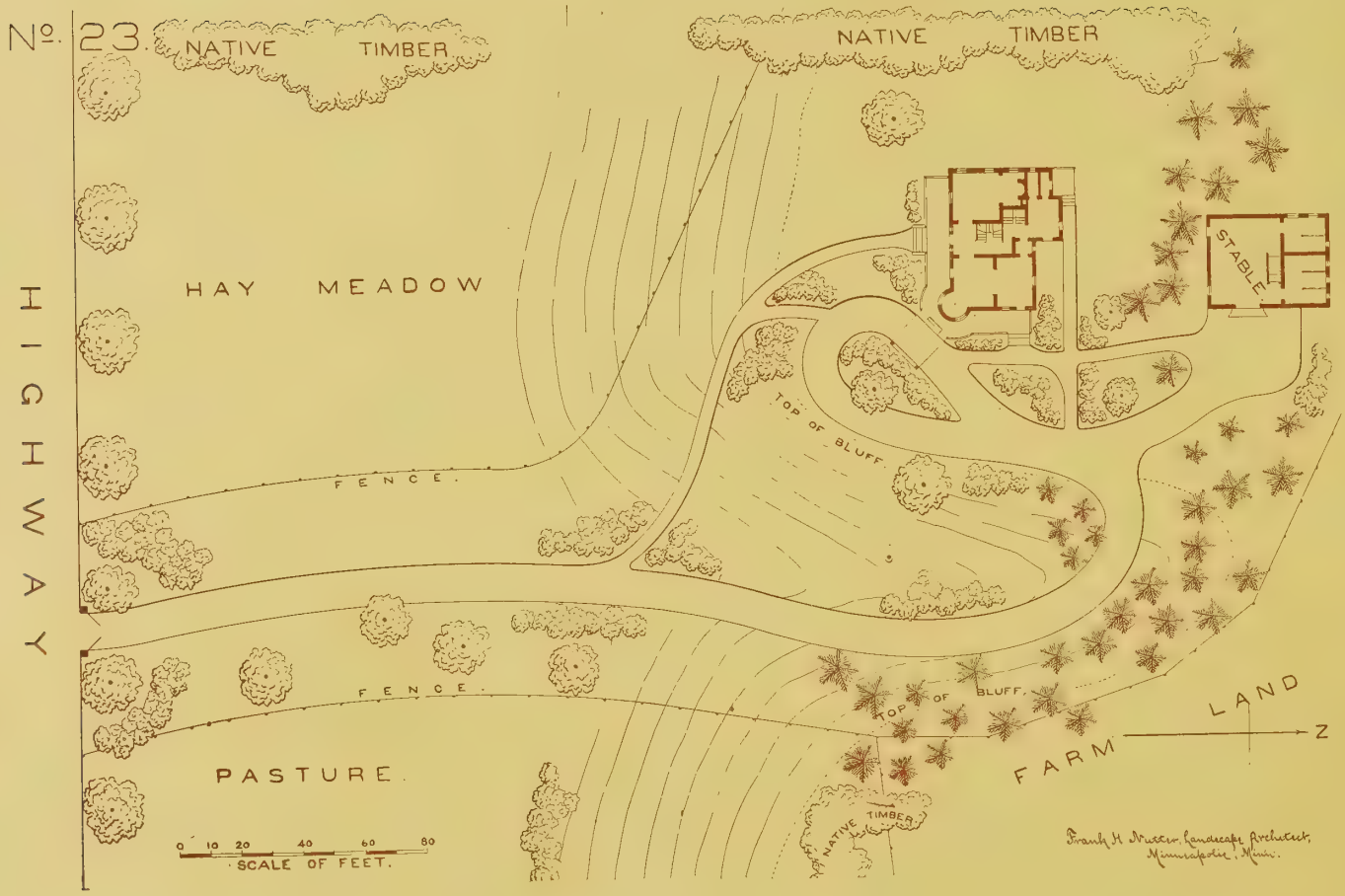
A hillside location is often very desirable from its picturesqueness and commanding position, but to develop it successfully requires much careful study and planning. The irregular lot before us presents such a problem.

Rising abruptly from the street line to a height of 10 or 12 feet, and then gradually sloping to rear of lot, the house had to be planned to conform both to the shape and topography of the grounds; and while foundation at rear shows but 6 inches above lawn, the height of front veranda floor is as many feet.

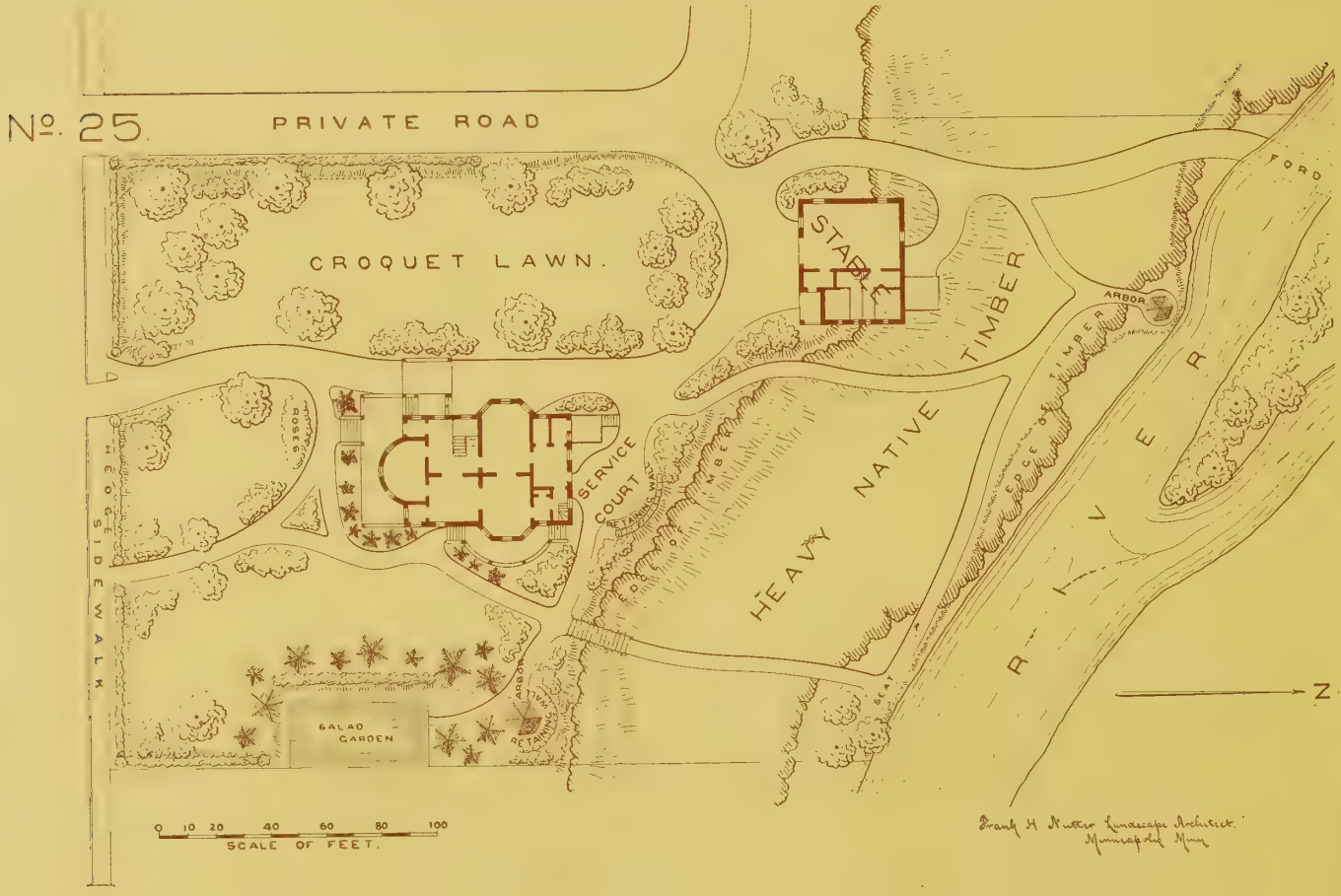
Through the co-operation of neighbors a common drive has been built from the adjoining and higher street which serves as the carriage entrance.

To avoid washing in heavy storms the front walk is built and curbed with cement, and an occasional step enables it more easily to overcome the grade from top of bank to landing at house. From this landing a short flight of steps leads us up to the carriage drive and thence to rear door, or a longer run to the left, onto the front veranda, where is obtained a view across a beautiful lake close at hand and some 30 feet below us. At rear of house a retaining wall provides for a level area.

Native trees on lot preclude much planting, but a group of two ash and a canoe birch give added protection from the northwest winds, and on east and south line thick shrubberies are filled in as a screen. The stone foundation and parapet of veranda is masked with tall shrubs except the bay, which is brought into prominence by a group of dwarf shrubs at its base. The bank at street from its height and character of soil would be almost impossible to maintain a satisfactory sod on, so it is mostly covered with a thick growth of shrubs and vines; sumachs, hazel, wild roses, etc. As the locality is essentially a rural one, only native shrubs are used in ornamenting the grounds.


No. 23.
NATIVE TIMBER
NATIVE TIMBER
HAY MEADOW
STABLE
TOP OF BLUFF
FENCE.
FENCE.
TOP OF BLUFF.
HIGHWAY
FARM LAND
PASTURE.
NATIVE TIMBER
0 10 20 40 60 80
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Nutter, Landscape Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.

No. 24.
FARM LAND
NATIVE TIMBER
TO STABLES
NATIVE TIMBER
TOP OF BLUFF
PAVILION
TIMBER
WALLED GARDEN
FOUNTAIN
BOAT & BATH HOUSE
NATIVE TIMBER
NATIVE TIMBER
NATIVE
WOODLAND
FARM ROAD
LAWN FOR ARCHERY & TENNIS.
MEADOW
LAKE
TOP OF BLUFF
NATIVE TIMBER
HIGHWAY
0 20 40 60 80 100
SCALE OF FEET.
N.
Leonard H. Haskell, Landscape Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.


No. 25.
PRIVATE ROAD
CROQUET LAWN.
STABLE
ARBOR
TIMBER
FORD
RIVER
ROSES
HEDGE
SIDEWALK
SERVICE COURT
RETAINING WALL
HEAVY NATIVE TIMBER
ARBOR
SEAT
SALAD GARDEN
N
0 10 20 40 60 80 100
SCALE OF FEET.
Frank H. Nutter Landscape Architect
Minneapolis Minn.

### PLATE XXIII.

On this leaf from our notebook is portrayed an old New England homestead, and the time having come to move "from the old house into the new" a few acres of the farm have been set apart for ornamental treatment. The dwelling stands on a plateau some 30 feet above the highway. Direct approach with driveway is hardly practicable but a break in the face of the hill as shown by "contour lines" affords an easy route for carriages, and a walk branching to left at foot of slope allows the pedestrian a shorter, though steeper path. The hillside adjoining drive is thickly planted to white pines and hemlocks with finer and smaller evergreens on the borders, thus giving the effect of driving through some forest glen; but the sharp turn to the left as house is approached opens up a striking view to the south and east, over woods and villages which had before been unsuspected.

A continuation of the evergreen plantings, with some deciduous trees and shrubs, screen the stable from the house and drive. As the western outlook is uninteresting belts of fine native timber have been left, and along the road a row of magnificent white ash date back to the days of our grandfathers.

Neat and nearly invisible wire fences enclose the home grounds proper, leaving in front a hayfield, to the east a pasture, and back of evergreens the cultivated land. Immediately around the house the lawn mower is used, but the hillside and the borders of the drive are mostly kept cropped by tethering some pet sheep and Jersey cows thereon. The same gradation is observed in the choice of trees and shrubs for the plantings. Two modest posts guard the entrance but are of interest in showing the possibilities of any farm, being built of rock-faced split field stones with a most attractive effect both in texture and color.

### PLATE XXIV.

In this drawing is shown an extensive summer residence and farm situated on the shores of a large lake. The dwelling is placed in the border of a growth of native timber which furnishes a fine background for the house as viewed from the road, and also separates the ornamental grounds from the farm lands and buildings beyond, which are approached by the road at the left. The topography of grounds is indicated on plate, the meadow in front of house sloping gradually from top of bluff near entrance to shore of lake.

To gratify a taste for formal planting and avoid too violent a contrast with the surroundings a walled garden is provided at end of veranda and several feet below it. The wall is partially concealed by shrubberies outside, and within is a fountain and varieties of plants and shrubs impossible of cultivation in a more exposed situation.

A high promontory as shown affords a commanding view of lake, and here a summer house is built, while in a grove at foot of bluff nestles a rustic boat and bath house.

Fine single specimens of native deciduous trees and groups of shrubberies and evergreens are arranged to ornament the lawns and break up the formal outlines of the native timber.

The large lawn devoted to games and the borders of drives and paths are carefully tended, but the "meadow" is not mown so often, though never allowed to become a mere hay field.

Other portions of the grounds, especially along the lake shore, afford opportunities for artistic treatment though not formally laid out, and there may be found rustic shelters and bridges similar to that shown on page 8, which, while attractive in such surroundings would be equally inappropriate in more finished portions of the grounds.

### PLATE XXV.

Attention has before been called to the fact that oftentimes it is not by the introduction of entirely new features but by careful use of what is already furnished by nature that the most happy landscape effects are obtained. Turning to page 8 the reader will find an example, where the retention of a few vigorous Lombardy poplars growing in an abandoned nursery has given life and emphasis to an otherwise monotonous and commonplace group of trees.

The grounds illustrated in Plate XXV. also illustrate this. The hillside and low ground on rear of property was covered with a growth of native timber including some fine elms, oak, birch, etc., and others in a less healthy condition. A course of physical training with axe, saw and spade has produced a woodland park, through which paths lead to sheltered seats on the bank of the little river, with pleasant vistas along the rocky rapids and bounded by the island, redeemed from its former barren aspect by planting with trees and shrubs suited to the moist soil.

Against the background formed by the tops of these trees the buildings stand out to advantage. The upper portion of grounds is nearly level, the house standing about 3 feet above street. The foundation and parapet of verandas being of rock-faced masonry they harmonize with the mugho pines and savins placed before them. Other and larger evergreens border the lawn and screen a small garden and an arbor placed on brink of bluff, overlooking park and river.

A low hedge of savin juniper with the entrances and angles emphasized by neatly trimmed red cedars outlines the front boundaries of property.

The plantings are of hardy deciduous trees and flowering shrubs.

# Landscape Gardening.

By F. H. Nutter, Engineer
Minneapolis Park Board.

TO the great majority of our home builders the question of absolute necessities is a pressing one, and in the struggle to meet and supply these, the fact that utility and beauty may be wedded and generally at no additional expense, is often overlooked. The World's Fair at Chicago was a revelation to the people as to the relation of art to undertakings of great magnitude, but too many are still skeptical in regard to the service it may render in the treatment of smaller problems, even the humble cottage lot.

Perhaps they have too readily accepted the dictum of the "Chelsea Philosopher," when, influenced maybe by his own experiences, he says, "Home is not poetical but prosaic," but granting this, we may reply that as many of our graceful writers make their prose sparkle with poetical fire, so the touch of art can throw a refining and brightening influence over many of the prosaic features of our homes and their surroundings.

With reference to what we have previously presented, in a more specific way as to the improvement and adornment of home grounds, allow us to explain some underlying principles of landscape gardening which are many times either overlooked or misunderstood.

The mission of our art is not, as many seem to conceive it, to destroy the work of nature and replace it with the crude artificiality of man's handiwork. Viewing the scene of brook and woodland as the artist saw it in the misty morning light, few would entertain the suggestion that artificial adornments or architectural lines be introduced as an improvement; the most that could be ventured upon would be with careful hand to remove some obstruction to the view, or to nurse some struggling growth into fuller and more vigorous life.

Neither is it our mission merely to introduce a series of horticultural or other novelties, and to measure our success by the number of foliage and color beds or monstrosities of the gardener's art we can crowd upon our lawns.

The first maxim to be observed is that each tract of land to be treated has a certain character of its own, and must be studied and laid out in the light of that character. Often

some single tree or group of trees, or some topographical feature of the ground will give us the key to the situation and be the central point around which the balance of our picture must be grouped; for the result of our labors, if successful, will be the forming of a "tableau vivant," in which trees, shrubs and flowers—not human beings—shall combine to form a harmonious whole.

Not only does art, but usually economy, require such treatment of the grounds. The writer was recently called upon to advise as to the improvement of a picturesque building site of two or three acres in which the principal problem was the disposition of a ravine which existed between the house and the street, or as the owner expressed it, "to find the cheapest way of filling up the hole." As often happens, not only the cheapest but the most effectual way was not to fill it at all; but the entrance drive, with as little grading as possible, was carried across the upper end of the little valley. A path and footbridge at the lower end accommodated pedestrians, while the ravine itself, cleaned of its accumulated rubbish, and with a few groups of shrubs upon its banks will be a most striking feature of the grounds; and all at a much less expense than would be required had the proposed grading been done and a commonplace level lawn produced, instead of retaining and embellishing the picturesqueness of the tract, as is now the case.

The smaller picture that we here present shows how an accidental feature of the scene, as it were, may be made the most striking and important of all. A group of Lombardy poplars, a rather unfashionable tree of late, neglected and abandoned in the old nursery rows, had made a vigorous growth; thinned out and renovated, their striking forms give life and beauty to the view which

"THEIR STRIKING FORMS GIVE LIFE AND BEAUTY."

otherwise would have outlined a very monotonous profile against the summer sky.

Another rule to urge upon the beginner in laying out his grounds is simplicity of treatment. Too many in their enthusiasm attempt too much at first, and in addition to offending good taste are apt to bring upon themselves disappointment and disgust rather than begin in a modest fashion, and with experience and knowledge thus gained, the improver may with confidence enter upon the solution of deeper and more intricate problems.

## SCHOOL GROUNDS.

IF a new litany of every day affairs were to be prepared, one of the things that all would agree to pray to be delivered from is such a forlorn environment as generally is found around our public schools. No wonder that the scholars dread the school and the truant officer goes about the streets, and that the teacher developes into a bundle of nerves.

There are, of course, many reasons for this condition of affairs, principal of which is indifference on the part of parents and officials, reinforced by false ideas of economy which would soon take to flight if the indifference could be removed.

It is a great pity that in the rural sections of a country which boasts of its broad prairies and square miles of farming lands that the "district school" should so often be relegated to some wind-swept, mullein-grown patch of desolation whose main recommendation to the authorities seems to be that no one is willing to keep it and pay taxes on it.

In the towns and villages matters are usually better, for with the growth of civic pride more interest is taken in the construction of proper school buildings; but even here things are not what they should be. Exorbitant prices and economical notions frequently combine to restrict

the area devoted to school grounds, but still more discouraging is the neglected condition of what is already possessed. But, says an objector, if we should improve the grounds the children would soon destroy it all. This is only admitting that the neighborhood is as yet in semi-barbarism, and may be answered by saying that in the care of a teacher interested in such matters most of the pupils will soon be endued with pride in their surroundings; for the others the lesson that laws are made to be enforced cannot be taught too soon. In some of the eastern cities where room has been secured for small gardens in connection with the school buildings, much interest has been aroused among the scholars, and their efforts in the botanical and horticultural line have received much commendation: if this can be accomplished in a broad expanse of brick and mortar, what might not be achieved by schools surrounded with all the wealth of our fields and forests. The advocate of athletic sports will claim that most of the school yard is needed for a play ground; it is indeed true that in country districts and small towns the boys are frequently more unfortunate in this line than in the larger cities with their parks and public playgrounds, and cannot pursue their games without technically at least being trespassers; the remedy for this, however, is not to turn over the school grounds to them, but provide for them elsewhere. With modern school systems all but the smaller pupils will find scant time to linger in the yard for play. It is pleasant to note that among the high schools and academies more attention is being paid to the surroundings of the buildings, and it is to be hoped that the leaven will permeate the system till the lowest grades are reached. If before they have reached the age at which they seem to consider themselves in duty bound to sneer at all sentiment, the scholars can be led to appreciate the beauties of nature, and to a more intimate acquaintance with it; much has been done towards civilizing their future. The two designs for school grounds which accompany this article need but little explanation. In Plate A we have a small country school house standing on a lot of 125 feet frontage by 165 feet in depth. The front section of the grounds is devoted to lawns with shade trees and groups of shrubs, while at sides of building ornamental shrubberies occupy the space between paths and house. On line of rear of building a hedge separates this from the rear portion which is divided into two courts by a high

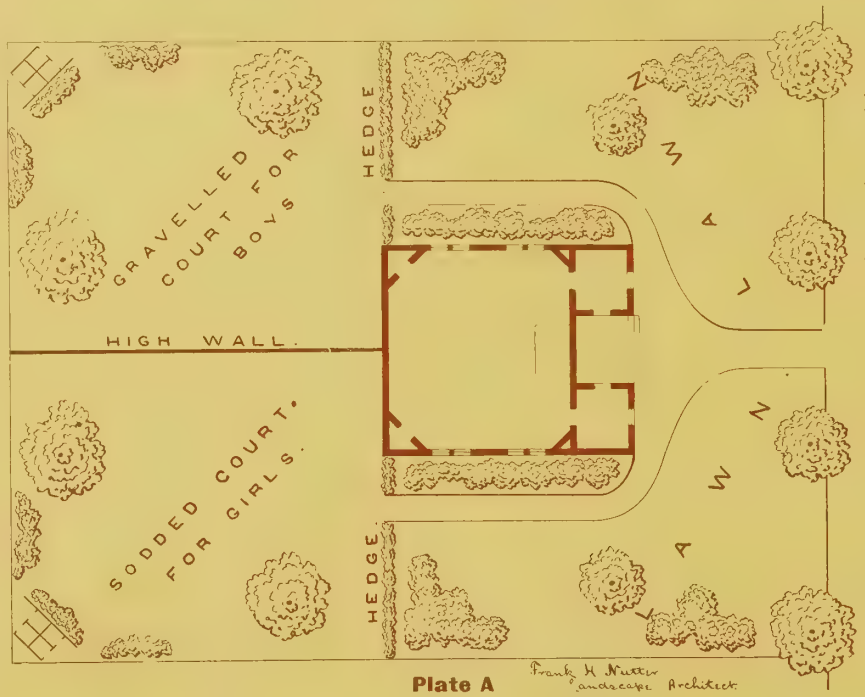



**Plate A**

wall; that for the boys is graveled for their rougher games of marbles, tops, etc., while the girls may enjoy theirs in sod. Shade trees shelter these courts and groups of shrubs and vines screen the outbuildings.

Plate B shows a village schoolhouse fortunate enough to occupy a full block 300 feet square; this is made into what may well serve in vacation time, at least, as a neighborhood park. Large trees border the sidewalk, smaller and rarer ones with shrubs decorate the broad lawns, a group of evergreens on either side screens the entrances, in front of which the formal beds provide for a floral display. Would not such surrounding in themselves be an important factor in the education of the scholars?

## Church Grounds.

IF it be true that "the groves were God's first temples," a great change has occurred in these latter days, for as we travel

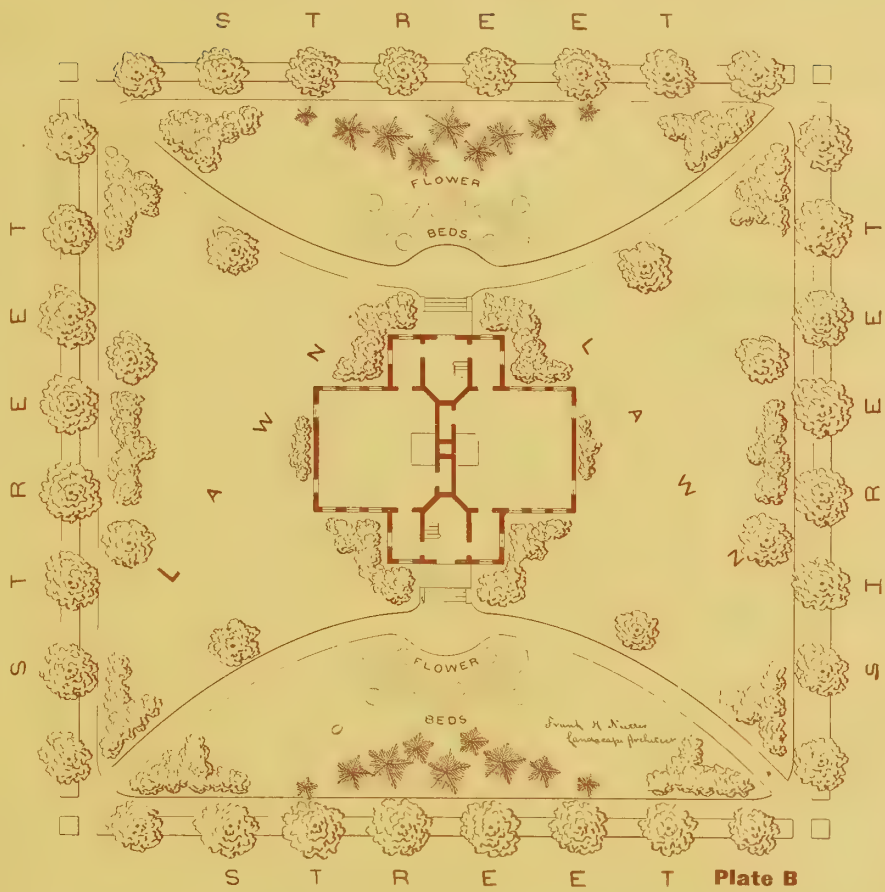



Plate B

from place to place we find our houses of worship many times with most desolate surroundings, even if not crowded on either hand by the warehouse or the saloon. From the religious standpoint this must be a misfortune, for however much theorists may emphasize the necessity of bringing religion into everyday matters, it must be admitted that only harm can ensue from forcing everyday life into religion. The power of the church in the ages past has been in the fact that it afforded opportunity to escape from the turmoil of affairs for a short time at least. Much has been said and written of the pleasant and attractive churches of the old country and the restful effect of their services, but few seem to realize how much of this may often depend upon their surroundings. Take the buildings and strip them of their clinging vines, destroy the overhanging trees, and in imagination transport the edifices to some noisy

and dusty village street and see how much has been lost; even the architectural beauties which seemed so great before have almost disappeared in the gayish light of commercialism. No one would present a gem to a friend without an appropriate setting which would bring out its latent charms: why, then, should men dedicate property to the highest purpose of all and then by neglecting opportunities reduce its value in great degree?

From the low motive of economy such a course should be avoided; it may safely be said that often the devoting of a small percentage of the cost of a church to securing a more ample site for the building and to the improvement of same would more than double the artistic effect of the whole at no increased total cost for the completed work.

If I could lay down a general rule for the securing of a church site I think it would be, decide on the area that you consider necessary under the circumstances and then purchase twice the amount. Of course the treatment of church grounds should be quiet and dignified, and the principal dependence must be put upon a luxuriant and well-kept lawn; vines in sufficient abundance to drape and emphasize the architectural features of building while not concealing too much of the same, which is a mistake often made; and trees and shrubs of graceful and unobtrusive habit of growth, avoiding startling novelties and anything which would tend to attract attention to itself, for the church building should ever be the central point of the picture, and all our work should add to its effect as such, rather than to detract from it. Evergreens often may prove very appropriate for this use, and from the architectural surroundings may frequently be submitted to the shears if necessary. One objection and one only can be urged against the course that here is recommended, and that is the old and very potent one of cost. No one understands better than the writer the self denial that must often be exercised by those struggling to provide the bare necessities of a church home, but this improvement of the church grounds may well be made the occasion for united effort on part of the members, and in rural districts a "bee" could accomplish much in a short time if only two precautions be taken,—let a plan be carefully matured before the work is begun, and let there be some one authorized to supervise the prosecution of the same to

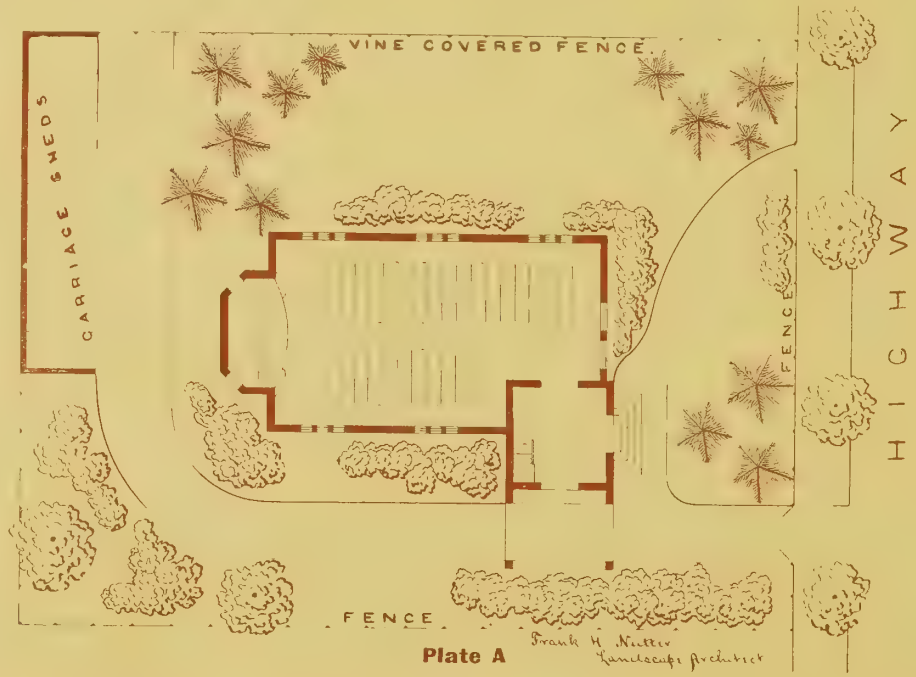



**Plate A**

its completion. This having been done the young people's society, of which there is one in every church these days, could find no better outlet for its surplus energies than in caring for and maintaining what their elders had wrought.

Two plans are presented with this article, showing what may be done under ordinary circumstances to render the church home what it should be to those who frequent it, for if the young people can always look back upon it with pleasant recollections, it may have a great influence on their future lives.

Plate A represents a small country church occupying a lot 125 feet on highway by 165 feet in depth and surrounded by farming lands. To protect the grounds from wandering animals, (including boys), they are enclosed with a neat iron fence which is covered for considerable distance with vines, — Virginia creeper, wild grape, clematis, etc. The building stands 40 feet from street line, affording lawn in front. As some attendants will come in carriages a drive leading under a covered porch at entrance will conduct them to sheds on rear of lot which are concealed by trees and shrubs at angle of drive, and group of evergreens at opposite side of church. Other plantings of evergreens and shrubs are suggested on plan.

Plate B presents a more pretentious building standing on a lot 100 feet by 165 feet, at corner of two village streets. No carriage sheds being required, the drive curves from one street to the other by the church door; the Sunday school room and parlors in rear are reached by path along side of church and from side street. Being enclosed by private lawns the boundaries of lot on side and rear are indicated by a low, close-clipped hedge of savin juniper; on street lines a narrow curbing of artificial stone separates lawn from sidewalk. The building being of stone, vines are freely used. Groups of pyramidal arborvitæ and mugho pine stand near vestry entrance and one of hemlock and white spruce near front corner of edifice; all these to be clipped, if necessary, to keep them within bounds. The street trees afford abundant shade, but a Wier's maple stands on side lawn and a couple of cut leaf birches in front, with beds of shrubbery at sides of church and bordering the path and drive as shown; only hardy and reliable varieties are used for these shrubberies but in localities where the climate permits, rhododendrous and other "broad-leafed evergreens" would be found very appropriate for such plantings.

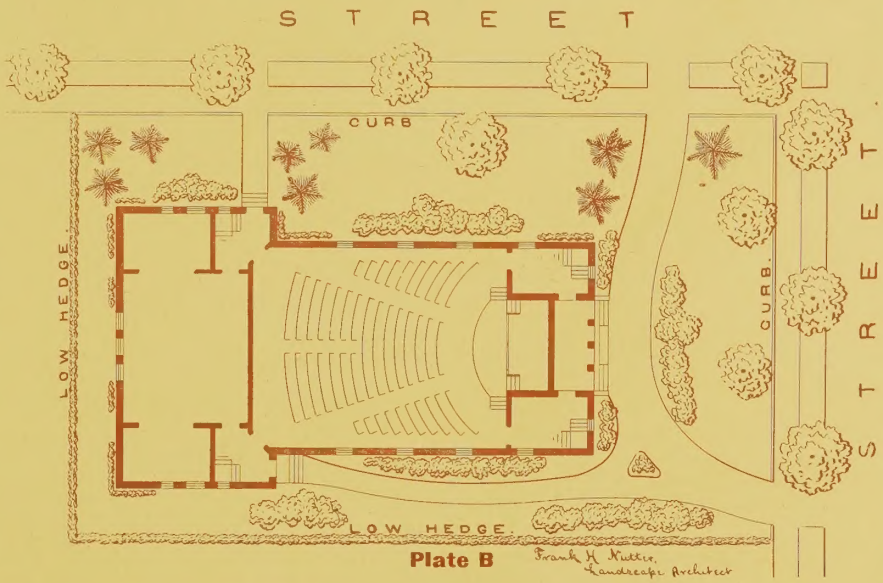


Plate B

The utilizing of the church grounds for burial purposes is practically a thing of the past, only to be met with in the older portion of our land or across the water. In cities and villages questions of health would reasonably lead to the abandonment of such practices, but doubtless there are many places in the country districts where the church building might be located in or adjacent to a small cemetery maintained after modern methods with most satisfactory results.

Why begin the improvement of your grounds without well-considered plan or design, when its cost is almost invariably more than saved by avoiding mistakes and expediting the work, to say nothing of the artistic results when complete?


# FRANK H. NUTTER

## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND ENGINEER

Engineer of Minneapolis Park Department Since its Establishment in 1883.

710 Sykes Block. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Sketches, designs or full working plans prepared for the laying out, construction and planting of public or private grounds, parks and cemeteries.

All necessary surveys, preliminary or final, made under the personal direction of Mr. Nutter, if desired. Correspondence solicited and same will receive prompt attention.

**Important!** To those contemplating the improvement of home grounds of small area Mr. Nutter submits the following proposition:

For any lot not exceeding one-half acre in area, on the receipt of $10.00 and a diagram of house and lot giving sufficient details to guide him in his work, he will prepare a sketch design for laying out the same, showing location of paths, drives, plantings, etc., accompanied by a complete letter of explanation and suggestion. The diagram sent need not be drawn accurately, but should give enough measurements to enable a plat to be made from it; it should show location of house on lot, principal rooms and entrance of house, also of stable and other buildings; comparative grades on lot and street; direction from which entrance should be made; trees, etc., to be saved; direction of any outlook to be preserved or unsightly object to be concealed; and points of compass. A photograph of site and hints as to surrounding landscape would aid in obtaining the best results.

Orders may be sent direct to Mr. Nutter, or through Mr. Walter J. Keith, Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.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